VIEWS & NOTICES OF GLASGOW IN FORMER TIMES.

S.T MUNGO'S TOMB

GLASGOW;

Published by Allan & Ferguson,

LITHOGRAPHERS,

AND

Robert Stuart & C.o, Booksellers,

159 INGRAM STREET,

1847.

VIEWS AND NOTICES

OF

GLASGOW IN FORMER TIMES.

By

Robert Stuart.

"RETINENS VESTIGIA FAMÆ."

GLASGOW:

ROBERT STUART & CO.

EDINBURGH: BELL & BRADFUTE, AND JOHN MENZIES.

MDCCCXLVIII.

Printed by William Rankin, 62 Argyll Street, Glasgow.

INTRODUCTORY NOTICE.

IN a city like Glasgow, which has been indebted for so much of its prosperity to the enterprise of times gone by, there will, doubtless, many a one be found, to whom even the humblest traces of its appearance in former days will prove far from devoid of interest, and in whose opinion the preservation, in a pictorial form, of the once familiar land-marks of the place, will appear both a worthy and a welcome deed.

To such, the accompanying plates require no formal or laboured introduction; they speak for themselves to every mind which can so far unbend, as to find an occasional source of amusement in glancing at the local memorials of the past; and justly lay claim to attention, as reminding us of a state of things widely different from that which now distinguishes the Commercial Metropolis of Scotland, when—as was once said of the capital of the civilized world—the homes of the increasing multitude glisten upon her seven hills.

It is well known that, to anything like the sometimes coveted boast of a chivalrous antiquity, the city of Glasgow can make no pretence. The

annals of her early years are linked in but a very trifling degree with the storied recollections of kings, or with the martial "pomp and circumstance" of baronial display; but if, on this account, the relics of her former existence give place, in the light of historic association, to those of many a spot of now inferior renown, they are nevertheless rich in that peculiar interest which springs from the record of their connection with the ascendancy of priestly magnificence, with the infant spread of education, and with the first struggles of an enterprising community in that important path which the spirit of commerce had incited it to pursue.

In what might be termed a continuous series of embellishments, calculated to illustrate the successive pages of our local history, it is not to be expected that any publication should now be made complete. The present collection can, at all events, make no pretence, either to having exhausted the subject, or to the possession of any particular regularity of order or design; on the contrary, the following drawings have been selected and arranged in a great measure at random, and must be regarded as forming a number of disjointed sketches, rather than the several links of a consecutive chain.

That the selection is a sufficiently varied one, none, perhaps, will be inclined to deny—presenting, as it does, subjects of every shade of interest—from the pile lit up by the storied rays of history or tradition, to the nameless structure whose doubtful claim to notice rests on the simple basis of an antiquated appearance.—On turning over the accompanying plates we are frequently reminded of the great interval which, rather in "circumstance" than in time, separates the present generation from that which beheld these old buildings in their youth. At one page we have, for instance, the palace of the rich and ambitious churchman—its embattled tower and massy curtain telling, in the midst of ruin, of a wealth which had reason to covet the protection of guarded walls, and of a temporal power that would now but ill beseem the

professed apostle of a meek and lowly faith. At another we meet with the abode of the inferior member of the chapter—one of the many mansions of respectable appearance, with which the pride or policy of its occupants had thought proper to surround the castellated stronghold of the see. At a third, we look upon the building to which the finger of tradition has pointed, as that which received the first aspirants after knowledge, who assembled as the *alumni* of a College in Glasgow. One picture delineates the Cathedral and its neighbourhood in the days of William and Mary, another shows the rustic Broomielaw when the Second George was King. Here the eye reposes on the pile which had entertained of old the noble family of Montrose, and there it meets the emblazoned front of that where Cromwell had rested for a season from the "labours" of his quick ascent to power. The old hall of the "Merchant rank," the original Hospital of the Hutchesons', the once far-famed Tolbooth itself, are all here to demand their share of attention; with many other buildings of former consequence, on whose special claims to notice it is unnecessary to dwell. There is not, perhaps, one in the series to which some degree of interest fails to attach; and it is hoped that, as a whole, the collection will not be regarded as an insignificant contribution to the somewhat barren field of our local antiquities.

With reference to the letter-press department of the volume, the author may be permitted to observe, that the accompanying notices were compiled to illustrate a series of plates already prepared, and that consequently he has not had the usual advantage of selecting his subject. Had it been otherwise the collection might, very possibly, not have been improved; but as it is, this circumstance will, perhaps, serve to excuse, in some instances a meagerness of detail, in others an attempt to supply the want by an occasional divergence into the by-ways of descriptive remark.

ROBERT STUART.

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Allan & Ferguson Lith.

Thomas Court, 87 Argyle Street

VIEW OF GLASGOW DURING THE REIGN OF CHARLES THE SECOND

DRAWN BY CAPTAIN JOHN SLEZER, OF THE ARTILLERY COMPANY

VIEWS AND NOTICES

OF

GLASGOW IN FORMER TIMES.

GLASGOW FROM THE SOUTH,
IN THE REIGN OF CHARLES (OR OF JAMES) THE SECOND.

AS the most ancient attempt at a pictorial representation of the City known to be in existence, the plate which forms the first of the series now before the reader will not perhaps be thought unworthy of its leading place. Descending to us, as it does, from the midst of times which were of threatening import to many within her gates, we have in this picture the means of forming some acquaintance with the general aspect of that Glasgow, to the comely, nay, even beautiful appearance of which, the poet, the politician, and the soldier have alike borne the evidence of a willing admiration. The drawing itself does not, it is true, do more than exhibit a partial outline of the city, yet it is of considerable interest as a memorial of the time when the half-rural town stood forth from amid a circle of orchards and garden grounds, the very mention of which must be refreshing to him who happens to find himself, at the present day, in the neighbourhood of the Bridgegate or of the adjacent wynds.

For this view we are indebted to John Slezer, a native, it is believed, of Holland, who held an appointment during the reign of William the Third, as Captain of the Artillery Company and Surveyor of his Majesty's Magazines in Scotland. Slezer was a man of considerable talent, who attempted much that was not appreciated as it ought to have been by the age in which he lived, and it was his fate to maintain, in consequence, many a stern encounter with the demon of adversity. In a memorial which he presented to the parliament of the day, he states, when referring to his

publications, that he had been encouraged by Charles the Second, his brother the Duke of York, and many of the Scottish nobility, to make a collection of drawings of the most remarkable Towns, Public Buildings, Gentlemen's Seats, &c., existing in Scotland; and it was while in prosecution of this design that, among many other engravings of interest, he published the plate which presented a view of Glasgow from St. Ninian's Croft. His work, known by the title of "THEATRUM SCOTIÆ," made its appearance in the year 1693. The expenses incurred by its production were the principal cause of his embarrassments, and although his services had been more than once acknowledged by the Scottish parliament, he never derived from his artistical labours any solid advantage.

A reminiscence, if it may be so called, of the former city, is here before us, which, although bearing witness to many a sweeping change, is yet linked in some degree to the present time by means of one or two prominent objects still familiar to the eye. The Bridge, the Steeple of the Merchants' Hall, the other spires exhibited in the view, and the distant Cathedral, all combine to remind us that, although the lapse of nearly two centuries is in question, we are still looking upon a somewhat familiar scene. As to the Bridge, we see it indeed under a form which it no longer presents, and from a field of view that imagination alone can recover from the dull uninviting line of Adelphi Street; but still, in its spanning arches, we have a trace of connection with "the days of other years," and something to remind us of the age of David Bruce, and of the public spirit of Bishop William Rae. The Steeple of the Merchants' Hall was, when Slezer sketched it, fresh from the builder's hand. Beyond it are seen in succession, stretching to the right, the spires of the old Hutchesons' Hospital, the Tron Church, the Tolbooth, the College, and the Cathedral—all, with the exception of the first, still in existence. The remainder of the view belongs exclusively to the past, in every separate feature that is distinctly shown. It looks sufficiently pleasant to the eye; and an air of quiet comfort seems to rest over the distant bank of the river, where many a quaint-looking little domicile may be seen—displaying its whitened gable to the flowing current of the stream.

An object somewhat prominent, from the contrast it presents with the dark masonry of the arches, is the Water Port, or southern gateway of the city, which stood in the line of the present Clyde Street, and a little to the westward of the bridge—having, of course, a passage between it and the river, at right angles with the road-way which stretched across the stream. This "Port" was one of great importance, as the only convenient point of access from the important counties of Renfrew and Ayr; and, besides serving as a barrier in the way of the idle or evil-disposed, it was here that a very considerable proportion was collected of the dues which were levied on the agricultural produce that entered the town.

Although the city of Glasgow was furnished with such gateways at each principal

approach, it does not appear to have ever been what could properly be termed a walled town. Prior to the Reformation it was probably entirely open, reposing for protection upon the wide-spread power of the Church. The advent, however, of Protestant times, accompanied by those numerous scenes of bloodshed and contention which preceded the full establishment of religious freedom, would seem to have, on various occasions, compelled the inhabitants to provide for the security of the town by the formation of walls or trenches at every accessible point. But that these were only of partial extent, is evident from a passage or two in the Burgh Records, in which, when on particular occasions it was necessary to be wary as to the admission of strangers, the Ports are ordered to be carefully guarded, and the citizens are enjoined to maintain a proper watch over their "closs foots and the ends of their zairds."

At several periods of historical importance we find, from the same source, the inhabitants thrown into a condition of high excitement—forsaking, it would seem, *en masse*, the sober occupations of craftmanship, and boldly arming with gun and pike, or hastening with spade and pick-axe to the outskirts of the town. One of the most extensive exhibitions of this warlike spirit which ever disturbed the equanimity of the Burgh, occurred in the summer of 1639, when the adherents to the second "Covenant" were assembling their forces to oppose the army of King Charles. Glasgow was on that occasion called on, of course, to supply her quota of men; and what with "wapingschawing," levying of troops, the importation of arms and ammunition, the flaunting of ensigns about the streets, and other signs of martial ardour, the once sober city would seem to have got somewhat crazed, and to have become as violently warlike as the fiercest Bellona could desire. Amid the preparations thus making to keep his Majesty at a distance, the authorities were not however unmindful that war has its accidents, and that it might be prudent to prepare for such an untoward circumstance as the necessity of a nearer acquaintance with the Royal forces. They accordingly resolved upon strengthening the defences of the town: directing, amongst other matters, that a wall should be built between the Light-house and the Custom-house, and that a Port should be erected "betwixt the Bridge and umqll Johne Holmis hous."

This was in all likelihood the "Port" which Slezer has represented in the view; but cannot have been the first which stood in that quarter, as we find the "Brig Port" mentioned in the Records of the Town Council *sub anno* 1588. At that period, in consequence of the prevalence of the "pest" in Paisley, it was ordered to be strictly watched, in order to prevent any of the citizens from going forth to attend a market or fair, then about to be held in that town. Any person, therefore, bold enough to evade the magisterial authority, by visiting the infected district, must have found his way across the river by aid of a boat, or by some other means which might easily lead to detection; and in the event of such an occurrence, he ran the risk

of being amerced in the penalty of "fyve pundis," and of banishment from the city for "zeir and day." The original gateway had probably been suffered to become so much dilapidated during the comparatively quiet period which immediately succeeded the union of the crowns, that it was found necessary to rebuild it in the season of excitement before referred to. Subsequently to that date, the Minutes of the Town Council contain numerous orders with regard to the repair and safe keeping of the Ports—orders frequently expressive of no slight uneasiness, which pretty generally alternated between the "Hielandmen" and the plague.

Beyond the gateway in the view, may be observed the upper part of what is said to have been the Custom-house, or place where the town's dues were collected, to which we shall, in another part of the volume, have occasion to refer. Farther to the left are seen the trees whose waving foliage overshadowed the once favourite promenade of the earliest public park possessed by the inhabitants. It stood between Stockwell and Jamaica streets; and till within the last sixty or seventy years, was a very fashionable place of resort. In an opposite direction, the town is observed stretching to the eastward; the houses on the site of the present shambles and their noxious vicinity, intermingled with trees, and separated from the river by a low stone wall. Where the Molendinar joins the Clyde a little haven seems to have been formed for the reception of small boats; this, with the grass-covered banks adjoining, and the few little shallops floating in the stream, gives an air of quiet simplicity to the picture, that from a present glance at the spot it would indeed be difficult for the imagination to realize.

Then, there is the foreground of the scene, part of St. Ninian's Croft, a perfectly unenclosed common, partially covered with bushes, probably of furze, and here and there marked by a few diminutive trees. The grasp of the spreading city has long been laid upon it, and row upon row of an inferior class of buildings now possess the spot, their unenticing precincts (a general fault in the older parts of the city) far too closely built upon, and, as a consequence, redolent in much that will do anything but conjure up an idea of "Araby the Blest."

Take it all in all, this little view will suggest many a varied reflection, as a record of the changes which the lapse of a hundred and fifty years has produced on the appearance of the town. In some minds it will call up a kindly thought of the former worth and homely respectability of the community; in others it may awaken a different feeling, and suggest comparisons highly satisfactory to our own sense of vanity and the glories of progress. Let it not be forgotten, however, that all which we may incline to boast of will likewise have their day. It is a hackneyed saying, that nothing is immutable below. As Shirley long since wrote:—

> "The glories of our birth and state
> Are shadows, not substantial things."

Allan R. Ferguson sculp.

Turner's Court 87 Argyll Street

VIEW OF GLASGOW FROM THE FIR PARK, ABOUT THE YEAR 1691

DRAWN BY CAPTAIN JOHN SLEZER, OF THE ARTILLERY COMPANY

GLASGOW FROM THE MERCHANTS' PARK,

About the Year 1690.

IN the preceding plate we were introduced to an olden sketch of Glasgow from the south. The next affords a glance at its former aspect from an opposite quarter, and is likewise borrowed from an engraving published by Captain Slezer. The spectator whose fortune it was to look upon the reality of the scene as Slezer has presented it, may be supposed to have taken his stand, about the period of the "glorious '88," near the summit of the rising ground now studded with the many tombstones of the Necropolis, and to have thence surveyed the most venerable portion of the city—that ancient retreat, we are told, both of the Bishops and the Muses, in which so many hearts had recently beat for the success of the Prince of Orange. Immediately beneath his eye, and prominent above every other object of attraction, lay the stately cathedral of Saint Mungo—the main portion of the structure showing much as it does at the present day, although in several particulars the accuracy of Slezer's pencil is by no means to be highly commended. Around it glimpses of the churchyard were to be had—its southern boundary lined by a towering wall of verdure, that has long ceased to arrest the passage of the flitting wind. In front was exposed a rustic or garden scene, sloping towards the little stream below, and showing in the middle distance a cluster of respectable looking buildings, which had at one time belonged, in all probability, to the Rector of Monkland, whose parsonage-house stood, we are told, at a short distance to the south of the church, and near the rivulet called the Molendinar. Farther off, appeared the castellated palace of the superior dignitaries of the pile before him; and in a contrary direction, the buildings of the College, with the "loom" of the receding city extending beyond.

The history of the Cathedral is too well-known to require that we should here enter upon any of its details. When Slezer looked upon the building, the days of its splendour had long passed into oblivion, and a hundred and forty years had rolled away since the pageantry of a theatrical form of devotion had been exhibited within its walls. The sonorous recitative of the Mass—the harmonious swell of the choral hymn—the professed followers of the humble Saviour in all the pomp of vain display—the symbol of the "Death on Calvary" upraised to view, and the silver censers swinging redolent of incense before it—all these had disappeared, and in their place, a plain Presbyterian held forth once a-week to a very staid and sedate assembly, to whom all the preceding display was an utter abomination, almost sufficient, in their opinion, to condemn the very ground on which it had been so long permitted to

ensnare the judgment of mankind. It is, however, not uncommon to find that, in cases where reason sternly condemns, the less practical faculties of the mind—imagination, with its desire of finding a material presence of the "soul-stirring," be it in the beautiful or the sublime—will often gloss over much that is corrupt and servile in the annals of the past, to invest with a false halo the pomps and ceremonies of former times. And such is, no doubt, the insidious state of feeling which animates many a visitor, when, surrounded by the interior grandeur of our Cathedral, he indulges an occasional reverie upon the "glories" that are gone. But although, at the time referred to, the parade of imposing forms was no more to be encountered within, still the ancient walls of the temple were there—palpable evidences of what taste and the command of wealth could accomplish in so poor a country as Scotland, at a time when her foreign trade was confined to the export of a few hides and salted fish; and when her home production was, apparently, seldom more than sufficient for the bare subsistence of her people.

Looking down, as we may be said to do, upon the old, familiar pile, it is scarcely possible to avoid thinking of the time when it was in course of erection, and when, to the half-astonishment, half-admiration of the rude uninformed inhabitants of the neighbourhood, the "free and independent" band of masons employed in its construction was assembled at work on the site of the present wide-paved church-yard —cutting and polishing at the successive blocks that were destined to form the solid courses of the erection, or to be exhibited in the more ornamental portions of the design. Although here, perhaps, somewhat out of place, it may be remarked, that the builders of the noted ecclesiastical and baronial structures which once adorned the country to a wide extent, were generally men of English or foreign origin, who travelled in considerable bands from one scene of operation to another, ever ready to exchange their skill and labour for the hoarded wealth of the nobility, or for the many good things that were known to flow from the secret coffers of the Church. As an important and most useful class, these fraternities of masons enjoyed in every quarter the highest protection, and were exempted, we may believe, from all pecuniary exaction or compulsory service. Each had its head-man or master-mason, whose duty it probably was to superintend the general affairs of the society, to bargain with employers as to the work to be performed, and to receive from them the money, which was afterwards distributed amongst the individuals of the band.

While the people of Scotland, therefore, were almost wholly uneducated, and miserably deficient in a knowledge of the arts, there came amongst them from time to time numerous bodies of these artisans, whose arrival in any particular quarter must have been an important event to the neighbourhood, and whose lengthened residence on the spot—a residence at times extending over many years—could scarcely fail to be productive of some little improvement in the general intelligence of the

inhabitants around. It was in the first half of the twelfth century, when that "sair sanct to the croun," King David, of pious memory, had restored, and properly endowed the see, that one of these masonic fraternities appeared for the first time, it is believed, upon the spot which lies before us in the view. The little village that is thought to have previously stood in the neighbourhood, would thus at once receive a great accession to its population, and would, no doubt, be much increased in size, by the erection of houses for the accommodation of the workmen—a class accustomed, we may be certain, to a somewhat better style of living than at that time prevailed among the peasantry in the north of Britain. The scene which had then, day after day, presented itself beyond the rivulet below, has left, however, no record of its existence in any part of the Cathedral as it now appears. The labours of the craftsmen first assembled there had been employed, it would seem, upon an earlier church than the present—reared in what is called the Norman style of architecture, and of which some fragmentary remains have been dug up from about the foundations of the existing edifice. But, in subsequent times, the masonic bands were again gathered upon the spot, with new perceptions of their art, and, perhaps, with an accession of numbers. The increasing wealth of the see had enabled Bishop Joceline, during the reign of William the Lion, to accomplish, it is supposed, the erection of the principal part of the present structure; and great, during many years, must have been the skill and activity displayed around its rising walls. In Slezer's drawing the ancient pile looks dark and venerable, as it does to-day. How forcible the contrast that fancy will suggest, as we cast back a thought upon the probable picture of the scene, when it was rising in the freshness of youth, all new and light-like from the workmen's hands!

Blackadder's Aisle, which, the stranger will require to be told, is the low building projecting from the centre of the edifice, does not in Slezer's time appear to have yet been covered by the little garden or flower plot which subsequently existed there, to the almost irretrievable injury of the elegant groined arches of the interior. Fortunately, the days when such a desecration could be permitted, are past, and others have arrived, in which, it may be said, a second dawn is breaking upon the fortunes of the ancient pile. The trees which lined the southern boundary of the church-yard have entirely disappeared, only, we believe, within the last fifty or sixty years. They were, probably, relics of the age of Roman Catholic power, and do not seem to have been peculiarly venerated in subsequent times, as, amongst other particulars of a somewhat similar nature, it is on record that, in the year 1660, permission was granted to "William Cummyng" to cut down a tree in the "Hie Kirk Yaird," on the condition that he should be at the expense of planting twelve in some other quarter.

The Consistory, not very accurately represented in the original drawing, may be observed at the western extremity of the Cathedral. This building was erected,

it is believed, a short time before the period of the Reformation, and, being regarded, during the progress of recent improvements, as entirely out of keeping with the noble edifice beside it, was taken down in the year 1845. Here the Commissary Courts, as they were called, were held for more than two hundred years. These courts were originally judicatories established under the authority of the bishops of the diocese, and were chiefly intended to take cognisance of those matters of a legal character in which the clergy claimed the right of interference. In later times their jurisdiction became of a somewhat mixed character, and many are the amusing particulars which may be brought to light, as to the doings of the former procurators of Glasgow, their clients, and retainers, when the subject can be entered upon with the necessary scope. There was a time, the reader may be assured, when a space of separation no greater than that which intervened between the Commissary Court and the fair residences of the Saltmarket, was sufficient to keep many a father of a family absent for more than one night at a time from his proper "house and home." But, then, these were days of trying legal labour, and the midnight oil was necessarily in great request in all those quarters of heavy court-business resort—the taverns and hostelries in the neighbourhood of the Drygate.

The Bishop's Palace, to which we shall by-and-by more particularly refer, appears in the view, extending to the westward of the Cathedral, and beyond it are seen some heights, intended, perhaps, for the rising grounds about Port-Dundas, while to the left may be observed a somewhat imposing swell of the ground, which, we fear, it will now be impossible to discover. With all its faults, however, we have no reason to be hypercritical with regard to what Slezer has handed down to our times—remembering, that in this island, the state of art was rude and deficient at the period when he ventured to borrow its aid, and that many and great were the difficulties against which he had to make good his way.

RUINS OF THE ARCHIEPISCOPAL PALACE OF

AS THEY STOOD ABOUT THE YEAR 1780

THE BISHOP'S CASTLE; OR, ARCHIEPISCOPAL PALACE.

FROM the earliest period of its existence, the principal officials connected with the Cathedral of Glasgow must, in all probability, have had their residences in its immediate vicinity; and of these, the largest or most imposing was, of course, in every age, that which had the honour of accommodating the chief dignitary of the see—the envied primate himself. From the rude character of the times, and in consequence of the close proximity of the locality to the Highland frontier, it may, on good grounds, be supposed that, from the reigns of David and Malcolm downwards, the dwelling-place of the bishop was a fortified building—capable, in case of need, of resisting any sudden attack, and of affording a safe retreat to the inhabitants of the adjacent little town.

The first reference we find made to any such structure, carries us back to the year 1300, when the forces of Edward the First were in possession of almost the whole of the Lowlands of Scotland. At that period, the Castle of Glasgow was occupied, we are told, by an English garrison, one thousand strong; placed there for the purpose, amongst other objects, of supporting the authority of one Anthony Beck, or Beik, an ecclesiastic in the interest of Edward, whom the paternal "umpire" had thrust into the chair of Saint Kentigern, to the detriment of that most patriotic, but most eccentric of dignitaries, Robert Wiseheart. The head of the renowned family of Percy commanded, it appears, this formidable band: our earliest acquaintance, therefore, with the stronghold of the mitred superiors who watched over the "cure of souls" in the archdeaconries of Glasgow and Teviotdale, is formed while we find it in the possession of a foreign enemy—its walls frowning with a new and stern aspect upon the troubled inhabitants around.

From the presence of the English soldiery, as well as from that of Bishop Beck, the citizens were soon after relieved by the gallantry of Sir William Wallace, who, according to tradition, assailed the enemy at the head of a body of three hundred horse, and, after a bloody engagement, forced them to evacuate the town. The calm, however, which subsequently reigned in this quarter of the country, proves far from advantageous to him who would become the annalist of that only place of strength which Glasgow could anciently boast of—the Bishop's Castle. It is solely when some event of historic importance directs a ray of light upon this or that particular structure, that we are able to enter at all into the story of its fortunes; and as this neighbourhood seems to have continued in a state of repose for nearly two centuries after the accession of Robert Bruce, there remains a lengthened period during which little can be added to the above casual notice of the building under review.

Like the Cathedral beside it, the Episcopal Palace would seem to have grown by degrees, and to have been so altered during the progress of time, that, in every probability, it presented at the dawn of the Reformation little or nothing which could connect it in appearance with the structure within whose walls may have reposed many of our Scottish kings—William of the Lion Heart, or Alexander the Third, that best of a lengthened line, who often, during his judicial progresses, made the seats of the bishops and nobles his places of abode—and in which the servants of the first Edward had gloried over the dream of a conquest that was never to be realized. As to the ruinous remains exhibited in the plates which accompany these pages, the question of their respective antiquity is pretty well ascertained;—the Great Tower, for instance, with some other parts of the structure, were built between the years 1430 and 1440, by that ambitious prelate, John Cameron, sometime confessor to the potent Earl of Douglas; thereafter secretary to the first of the Jameses; a little later, keeper of the great seal; and, finally, Lord Bishop of Glasgow. The remaining portions are of a subsequent date. The smaller Tower would appear to have been built by Bishop Beaton a short time before the battle of Flodden; who likewise environed the castle with a protecting wall. The handsome gateway, erected by his successor, Gavin Dunbar—the last but one of the Roman Catholic prelates who occupied the see of Glasgow—is to be seen in the copy of Captain Slezer's plate, but had been entirely demolished prior to the date of the drawings which are now in fac-simile before us. Over the gateway alluded to was placed, we are told by M'Ure the first historian of Glasgow, a stone charged with the family arms of its founder. We cannot ascertain at what period this part of the structure was laid low; probably its demolition occurred while the builder of the old Saracen's Head Inn was drawing his materials from the ruins of the Archiepiscopal Palace; but it may prove not uninteresting to the reader, to be told that the stone in question has been saved from the wreck, and that it now occupies a place on the back wall of a house in High Street, situated on the east side, at a short distance from the cross. The sculpture which it bears is of an upright oblong shape, presenting in the superior division the Royal Arms of Scotland, and beneath them those of Dunbar of Mochrum, in Wigtonshire—in heraldic language thus described: Or, three cushions within a double tressure flory counterflory, gules, with a mullet for difference.* Under the archbishop's shield there is a third, bearing a "chevron" in the field, but of what family emblematic we cannot determine: it does not, at all events, contain, as some have supposed, the arms of the prelate's maternal ancestors, the Stewarts of Gairlies, who bore on their family shield a fesse chequy surmounted of a bend engrailed.

* Although this blazonry was borne by the Dunbars of Mochrum, it is not properly that of the house of Dunbar, but of Randolph, from which the proprietors of Mochrum were probably descended.

In a general view, but judging rather from the information conveyed by Slezer's drawing than from the sketches of its last dilapidated condition more particularly under notice, the residence of the bishops and archbishops of Glasgow seems to have been in every respect worthy of the mitred dignitaries who exercised the chief ecclesiastical sway over a large division of Scotland. Sufficiently capacious to accommodate the household necessary to his state and comfort, it likewise contained, no doubt, abundant quarters for the reception of as many of those men of unfortunately little grace—the heroes of the jack and spear—as might, on occasion, be judged requisite to protect his reverence from the intrusion of the lawless. His own apartments were, we may believe, amply commodious, and, with regard to matters of mere domestic comfort, second perhaps to none in Scotland. The halls of royalty might be more imposing than his, and those of the high nobility be set off in a more showy and ambitious style; but in the study of all that could minister to the essential feeling of calm and comfortable repose, the sons of the "haly kirk" were generally advanced proficients; and, in this respect, there can be little doubt but that the mitre distanced both coronet and crown. Extended in size, or otherwise improved upon by many of the successive prelates who occupied the see, the Bishop's Castle had only reached, what may be called its completion, while those scattered rays were already beginning to spread abroad which were destined to concentrate in the full burst of a new day upon the hasty flight of its last Roman Catholic possessor. Of the entire structure, as before mentioned, the oldest portion that can with certainty be determined is Cameron's Tower, and the most recent, the Gateway erected by Gavin Dunbar.

The proudest days of the Episcopal Palace were probably those when Bishop Cameron was its occupant. This prelate, a person of considerable attainments, judgment, and tact, was translated in 1425 to the diocese of Glasgow, by King James the First. He had, some time previously, been made chancellor of the kingdom, an office which he continued to hold during the first twelve years of his Episcopacy; nor was it, perhaps, till after his retirement from state affairs, on the death of that monarch, that he was able to devote his attentions to those improvements in its condition which have made his name so celebrated in connexion with the see of Glasgow. Animated, apparently, with no small share of the spirit which has long been hereditary in the race from which he sprung—the family of Locheil—he seems to have seized upon the first moment when his energies could be devoted to the task, to establish himself in what he conceived to be the proper position of a spiritual prince. At an earlier period he had increased the number of prebendaries attached to the Cathredral from, it is said, twenty-six to thirty-two, and now, amongst other important schemes, it was his wish that these officials should all be permanently settled around him, so as to form, apparently, an ever-present ecclesiastical court, which should reflect an accession of dignity upon the position of their superior. While, therefore, he set about pre-

viding for the renovation and enlargement of his own particular residence, he, at the same time, compelled the thirty-two members of his chapter to build suitable houses for themselves in its immediate neighbourhood, and thus did much, at one sweep of his authority, to add to the size and appearance of the town. Surrounded, as it then was, with so many new and, for the period, handsome erections, and itself adorned with sundry imposing additions in stone and lime, the ancient Castle might well have seemed to wear the look of augmented pride as its portals swung open from day to day to receive the author of all this grandeur.

Bishop Cameron likewise beautified the Cathedral, and added to its size by carrying on, if not completing, the Chapter House, commenced by his predecessor; and great, according to M'Ure, was the display with which he celebrated the termination of the several undertakings in which he had engaged. Many, no doubt, were the scenes of ecclesiastical parade which had of old animated the vicinity of the ancient Castle; but there were probably few or none which surpassed, in the eyes of an admiring multitude, the pomp and circumstance of that engrossing day, when Bishop Cameron—his cherished objects accomplished—proceeded to make his solemn entry into the venerated Cathedral. If, as the poet avers, there be sermons in stones, certainly many a striking discourse may be supposed to have emanated from those which formed, some sixty years ago, the last lingering relics of the old Episcopal Palace. To the citizen of those days, who paused, on his occasional rambles, to scan the progress of their desolation, did not the fallen battlement and time-breached wall seem to speak in doleful tone of the splendour which had departed, and of those times when it vied with the stately fane beside it in lending an imposing aspect to the once central scene of priestly authority? "Ay"—might these crumbling ruins be thought to mutter low—"thou lookest upon us, son of a degenerate age, while we are fast going—ready to be knocked over by sacrilegious hands, and to be carried off piecemeal to uphold the roof-tree of, mayhap, some barn of a presbyterian kirk, or to fence in the dull haunts of a heretical generation. Alas! such is our fate, *cum ignominia et dedecore mori!* yet, bethink thee of all these desecrated walls have seen, and acknowledge that they are entitled to some share of thy veneration. Remember of the many times in other days, when every open space—every nook and corner around this spot—was crowded with the truly venerating and obedient sons of the faith—when every eye was turned to the then imposing towers of the battered pile before thee, while from its portal archway went forth many a long array, clad in purple and gold—those saint-like dignitaries, the deans, the archdeacons, the chantors, the prebendaries, and the Lord Bishop himself, preceded by mace and canopy, and surrounded by the incense bearers, swinging their silver censers to and fro. Yes, there was a time, likewise, when the valiant noble and his bold retainers could draw bridle with silent homage as they came in sight of these old

battlements from yonder turn of the Limmerfield; and many are the stately plumes that have been bent before him, as the holy prelate rode out from these gates to proceed on some courted visitation with the barons and esquires who were to follow in his train. Alas for the ages that are gone—*Æternum vale!*"—And so, had it ever been his fortune to ponder, in thoughtful mood, over the wrecks of its fallen greatness, the reader might have inclined to utter an "amen" over the concluding words of such a complaint on the part of the ancient palace—remembering, nevertheless, to how much superior a purpose the site of the former castellated structure has been applied, in affording space for the Royal Infirmary and the grass-covered area before it.

After the time of Cameron, we hear little of the Bishop's Castle, in an historical sense, until the authority of its possessor had become so lightly regarded, that his stronghold was actually assailed, during his absence, by the retainers of a western landholder, who made off with his principal goods and chattels as fair and legitimate booty. This event occurred in the year 1515, while James the Fifth was a child, and during the archi-episcopate of the elder Beaton. The author of the desecration was John Mure of Caldwell; and as Beaton was then, we believe, chancellor of the kingdom, under the regency of the Duke of Albany, there were, no doubt, some political reasons at the bottom of all this violence. Be this as it may, the palace was rifled, and the Laird of Caldwell was afterwards cited to answer before the Lords of Council for the act. In the decree given against him by the court, he was found guilty, at the instance of "ane maist reverend fader in God, James, Archbishop of Glasgow," of "breaking down" the said Archbishop's Castle with artillery, and of having forcibly ejected its occupants; and was amerced in damages for the "wrangwis spoliation," etc. of, amongst other household and personal gear, 13 feather beds, 18 "verdour" beds, 12 table cloths, 24 tin vessels, "pynts" and "quarts," 5 dozen pewter vessels, 15 swine, a great quantity of hides, salmon, and salted herrings, 12 tuns of wine, a hanging chandelier; a robe of scarlet, lined with fur; 6 barrels of gunpowder, with numerous guns, halberts, steel head-pieces, and cross-bows; while "claithing," jewels, silks, and precious stones, were likewise referred to as items of the plunder.—No wonder that Archbishop Beaton thought it advisable to encircle his palace with a "noble stone wall."

There can be little doubt but that the seeds of the Reformation began slowly to germinate during the troubled minority of James the Fifth; consequently, there were probably many in Scotland who even then looked with an evil eye upon the growing wealth and ambitious desires of the church, and who were prepared to rejoice in secret over such an indignity as the Laird of Caldwell had put upon one of its proudest members. Still, any decided expression on the subject of religious opinion was dangerous; and doubtless the shrewd-minded prelate would far rather have

winked at the doings of the culprit who stole his feather beds and drank his canary, than at the conduct of him who was addicted to reading the words of Scripture in the "vulgar tongue." It is on record that, at so early a date as the year 1407, one James Resby was burned at Glasgow for denying that the Pope was the vicar of Christ. In 1527, two individuals, Russell and Kennedy, suffered at the east end of the Cathedral on a similar accusation; and such examples of severity had their effect for a season, although they doubtless did much to embitter the minds of the people against the entire system of the Romish religion. Until almost on the eve, therefore, of the final struggle which was destined to establish a new form and new principles of worship throughout the land, the tenor of affairs would seem to have held a tolerably even course around the precincts of the Archiepiscopal Palace. The mutterings of the gathering storm may have been often heard, but they as often died away in the distance, and the atmosphere around continued to be far from violently disturbed, if not perfectly serene.

At length, however, this deceitful state of repose was to be rudely invaded, and as the great climax approached, the Bishop's Castle was destined to be once more startled from its security. While that miserable and selfish truckling was in the ascendant, which stained the measures of the Regent Arran, Mary of Guise, and other magnates, during the infancy of the hapless daughter of a lengthened line of kings, the gallant Earl of Lennox, father of Henry Darnley, after an attempt to entrap him on the part of these individuals, found it advisable, on his march from Leith to Dumbarton, to place a garrison in the Castle of Glasgow. The men left in this dangerous and isolated position were, no doubt, chiefly Highlanders, and a favourable specimen they proved of the ten thousand warriors who had gathered around their chief, when, landing from France a short time previous, he had set his foot upon his native heather and demanded their aid. The then archbishop of the diocese was, be it observed, a near relative of the notorious Cardinal Beaton; and one of the earliest steps taken by the Regent, after the retreat of Lennox, was that of laying siege to the Castle of Glasgow. Having mustered a considerable army at Stirling, he accordingly made his way by the Stable-Green Port into a near proximity to its walls, and opened fire upon it from what were then looked upon as engines of tremendous power, brass guns carrying balls of ten or twelve pounds weight. To the honour of the garrison, the Castle held out for nine days, but on the tenth its defenders agreed to surrender on condition of receiving quarter, and being allowed to retire unharmed. To the lasting disgrace, however, of the Earl of Arran, these brave opponents had no sooner opened the gates than they were butchered almost to a man. We must not, of course, always judge of the actions of former times by the standard which regulates the opinions of mankind in the nineteenth century; but, with regard to such an act, it was certainly one that would receive the condemnation of every age. Within a short period of the

taking of the Castle by Arran, occurred what is called the Battle of the Butts, which was fought near the site of the present infantry barracks, and in which the forces of the Earl of Lennox were totally defeated; while the city of Glasgow was abandoned, in consequence, to the tender mercies of Arran's victorious followers.

The ball rolled on, if we may use the simile, gathering a powerful impetus amid the troubles of the times. It is in no degree surprising, therefore, that the next historical notice which we meet with in regard to the Palace of the Roman Catholic prelates of Glasgow, should be marked with the presence of much fear and anxiety on the part of its inmates. Archbishop Beaton, (properly Bethune,) the second of the name who had been appointed to the see, was, it would appear, a person worthy of considerable respect, but the virtues of an individual were as nothing in a scale that already "kicked the beam," from the utter absence of good which had attended the system with which he was connected; and, as the storm grew apace, we find that, in the year 1558 the owner of the building, of which the last remains afforded the subject of our plate, was obliged to solicit the future Marquis of Hamilton to supply him with a garrison for the protection of his own person, and the preservation of those "sacred" vestments, golden chalices, silver coffers, caskets, *et hoc genus omne*, which, fifty years before, the sturdiest knave in Clydesdale might have feared to approach. This protection, however, was but dubious at the best; and as the hopes of the Church seemed to be rapidly on the wane, the really worthy Archbishop thought proper, very soon afterwards, to seek for safety in a foreign land; and depressing, we may believe, were his thoughts when passing for the last time under that archway, over which—if he did cast one lingering look behind—his eye must have rested on the sculptured arms of his less tempest-tossed predecessor, Gavin Dunbar.

Little more remains to be said of the Bishop's Castle. Although occasionally repaired and inhabited by the protestant prelates of Glasgow, the days of its prime had passed away with the advent of reformed opinions; and thereafter it could be regarded in no other light than in that of some old ancestral mansion, within whose halls the voices of the legitimate possessors were to be heard no more. Among the particulars which refer to the history of the building subsequent to the accession of James the Sixth, may be mentioned the brief siege which it sustained in the year 1570. The reader may remember that, in the spring of that year, the Regent Murray had been shot in the town of Linlithgow—an event which instantly called the Hamilton party to arms, with the avowed object of restoring Queen Mary to the throne. After marching to Edinburgh to liberate the Duke of Chastelherault, their chief, and many other friends to their cause, who had been there kept in confinement, the Hamiltons laid siege to the Castle of Glasgow, held at the time in the name of the infant king. It is said that the governor was then absent, and that the garrison consisted of only twenty-four men, who, however, successfully defended their post

until the besiegers were obliged to retire on the approach of that army, which the evil passions of the English queen had let loose upon a wretchedly divided country, to plunder and destroy.

By the time, accordingly, when good "King Jamie," found himself called upon to bear the weight of a double crown, the Castle of Glasgow had shown itself, it would seem, to be anything but proof against the assaults of time, or the results which usually spring from the contentious spirit of man. It had, in fact, fallen into a state of complete disrepair, and had even been used as a prison, but was restored in 1606 by Archbishop Spottiswood, and became his place of abode, with something like a renovation of its earlier importance. In 1661, according to Rae, the Bishop's Palace, "a goodly building," was still in preservation; by the time, however, when Morer wrote his "Short Account of Scotland," A.D. 1689, matters were, it would seem, not a little changed as regards the halls which had so long sheltered the spiritual princes of this favoured locality, for he tells us that, "at the upper end of the great street, stands the Archbishop's Palace, formerly, without doubt, a very magnificent structure, but now in ruines." We must not, however, understand by this, that it had actually become uninhabitable, as we find that even some twenty-five years later the building was found sufficient for the safe keeping of above three hundred highlanders —heroes of the outbreak of 1715—with regard to the ultimate disposal of whom the authorities of the city appear, from the burgh records, to have been sadly at a loss, as the Duke of Argyll was in no hurry to relieve them of the charge. Defoe, writing in 1727, takes notice of the Archiepiscopal Palace as a "ruinous castle inclosed by an exceeding high wall;" and this is, it may be said, the last notice we have of the building till between the years 1755 and 1778, in which the principal work of demolition was carried on; after that came the final destruction of 1789, when the last vestiges of the edifice were removed to make way for the erection of the Royal Infirmary.

As these "notices" must, of necessity, be somewhat discursive, we may not pass over the circumstance, that the first theatre which was ventured upon in Glasgow, existed in the shape of a common booth, close to the walls of the Bishop's Palace. This place of amusement was opened in 1752, and had the honour of receiving on its boards the then famous Digges, with several other actors of metropolitan celebrity. As yet, however, the public mind was, in general, far from prepared to sanction such an innovation; everything in the shape of stage exhibitions being regarded by the vulgar, as either savouring of some hidden design in the management of that ever-restless intriguer, the "Pope of Rome," or as conclusive of a forcible desire to steal a march upon the sedate inhabitants of this most watchful realm, on the part of that still more formidable antagonist, the Prince of Darkness himself. So virulent was the expression of popular opinion on the subject, that it was on many occasions

necessary to have a military guard in attendance upon those parties of the wealthier classes proceeding from the fashionable districts about Prince's Street and the Saltmarket to visit this place of amusement, and to bestow their plaudits on the histrionic abilities of a Love, a Stampier, or the fair and graceful Ward. At length, however, the *vox populi* became too powerful for the safety of this cause of offence, and in 1754 it was demolished at the instance of the well-known Whitefield—who, while preaching to a numerous congregation in the High Churchyard, suddenly cast his eyes upon the luckless booth, and having denounced it to his excited hearers as the habitation of the devil, it was, immediately thereafter, levelled with the ground.

Adjoining the quadrangular tower, in the first of the two views of the ruined castle, will be observed a quaint-looking little structure, the mild and rounded aspect of which contrasts forcibly with the sharp and stern outline of the neighbouring battlements. This was the chapel attached to the hospital of St. Nicholas—a relic of other days, removed in the year 1808, to permit of the formation of St. Nicholas Street. This hospital was erected in 1456* by Bishop Muirhead, and was endowed by him with an income sufficient for the maintenance of twelve decayed laymen and a priest. The chapel stood at the side of the main building, and is described by Nisbet in his Heraldry as "a place of fine aisle-work, of a Gothic form, and the windows supported by a buttress between each of them." Over the doorway appeared the arms of the founder, (a cadet of the house of Lauchop in Lanarkshire,) three acorns upon a bend dexter, etc.—an exhibition of, perhaps, excuseable vanity, which was repeated on other parts of the edifice. In the year 1789, the ruinous hospital and some adjacent ground were acquired by the magistrates of Glasgow from Mr. John Campbell of Clathic and the other patrons of the institution, on condition that the city should be liable for the payment of a small annual sum for the support of its poor; and from them it latterly came into the possession of the Glasgow Gas-Light Company, by whom these ancient buildings were, from necessity, demolished.

The low line of building seen in the distance of the second view, with a turret or belfry in the centre, was the Alms' House, or Trades' Hospital, a small part of which is still in existence. It was erected during the seventeenth century† as a retreat for a certain number of reduced members of the fourteen incorporated crafts, and stood upon the site occupied in earlier times by the residence of the prebendary of the parish of Morbottle, who was likewise, by virtue of his office, Archdeacon of Teviotdale. In addition to the accommodation requisite for its inmates, this building con-

* In 1471, according to some accounts.

† Or even at an earlier date; unless an older building of the same description had preceded the last mentioned, as it is on record in the minutes of the burgh, under the date of 15th July, 1589, that Mr. Patrick Walkinshaw, Sub-Dean of Glasgow, was "decernit and ordanit to flitt and remove himselfe, servandis, and guidis, incontinent, furth and fra ane south mid chalmer, occupiet be him of the tenement of the Almous hous, besyde the Castell." It may here be observed, that the original drawings from which our plates have been copied, are in the possession of James Smith, Esq. of Jordanhill.

tained a diminutive hall, in which, prior to the erection of their premises in Glassford Street, the members of the Trades' House were accustomed to assemble on public occasions. Until a late period, there was placed in one of its windows a box, in which the charitably-disposed were accustomed to deposit their gifts; and, at no very remote date, it was usual for the bell in its little turret to be tolled on the passage of any funeral party towards the neighbouring churchyard—a mark of respect which was generally acknowledged by a small donation from the relatives of the deceased. Above the box was placed an inscription, bearing, it is said, the date of 1636, and speaking to the sympathies of the passers by in this homely paraphrase of the striking words of the apostle :—

"Give to the Pvir, and thou sal have treasur in Heavin."

OLD HOUSES IN THE ROTTENROW,

(North Side.)

OF the numerous manses, or parsonage houses, erected in Glasgow during the reigns of the Jameses, there are a few which still linger upon the scene, despite the ruthless march of innovation and the silent ravages of time. It may readily be supposed, however, that, in every instance, they bear at the present day but few traces of the actual aspect which was theirs when, amid the surrounding dwellings of an humble and dependent population, they stood forth with something of an aristocratic air—the chief and most desirable-looking edifices of the town. What with alterations and repairs, the few which remain have, in reality, become so greatly modernized, that we suspect there are many among our readers who will find a difficulty in believing that the houses referred to can belong to so distant an era as that of Bishop Cameron, or of any of his succesors during the existence of the Papal authority in Scotland. That some few, however, may still with certainty be pointed to, as having stood more than three centuries ago where they still attract the attention of the visiter, is a fact that cannot be questioned; and among these few, we have, in the first instance, to take notice of that which is represented in the upper division of the plate which follows the two views of the Bishop's Castle.

The ancient edifice in question (for, in speaking of the relics of the old episcopal city, we may well apply the word ancient to objects of comparatively no very distant age,) stands upon the north side of the Rottenrow at a short distance from the High Street, and may have frequently caught the attention of the visitant to that almost deserted locality, as a building that told of former respectability, and of a prosperity which has altogether abandoned the spot. At what particular period it was erected we cannot determine. It is not, probably, so old as to be included amongst those built during the reigns of James the First and Second; but that it was in existence prior to the Reformation, and that it was then occupied as his town residence by the parson of Moffat, is a portion of its history which we can state upon the authority of documents not to be gainsayed.*

The reader at all familiar with the various works which have been given to the public as Histories of Glasgow, will know that the first which appeared—that of M'Ure—forms the basis on which almost all the others have reposed for whatever concerned the earlier records of the city; and a tolerably respectable work it is, if we look to the time when it was written, to the senility of its author, and to the many eccentricities of a narrow but observing mind, which, if we may judge by his book, had marked the whole character of the man. To M'Ure, therefore, we cannot but acknowledge ourselves to be considerably indebted, as proving, in some measure, a useful guide to the antiquities of Glasgow; and from him we learn, with regard to the building in question, that it had been originally the parsonage house of the Rector of Renfrew, but that, at the period of the Reformation, it belonged to the incumbent of Moffat, Mr. John Wardlaw, who, at that time, transferred it to the possession of his nephew, a cadet of the family of Torry.

In contemplating the flight of time, the lapse of three centuries may be looked upon as a trifle; but, as regards the annals of Glasgow, the interval appears extended beyond its natural proportions—so great are the alterations which it has produced—so utterly changed are the feelings and the habits of her people. While looking on this old building—still bearing the traces of some former consequence—and while thinking of the quiet little episcopal city of which it originally formed a part, we cannot but revert in idea to the great event of the Reformation, and to the circumstance, that its progress was not hailed in the most friendly spirit by the people of Glasgow. Nor was this at all surprising, when we consider how much the support of its inhabitants depended upon the officials of the church, and their numerous visiters and attendants; and certain it is that, when, through the greed of the Scottish nobility, which Providence directed, we may venture to believe, into a channel that was eventually to be productive of good, the entire system of the ancient religion was overthrown, there were many laymen, besides the

* We refer to the title deeds of the property, which we have been kindly permitted to examine.

burghers within sound of the bells of Saint Mungo's, who had occasion to lament the change. The benefit that was to follow was not in every instance distinguishable to the vulgar eye, and was a thing which, in the course of his lifetime, the citizen of Queen Mary's days could scarcely hope to experience; while, in the case of those who lived by the expenditure of a wealthy national establishment, the loss was decided and immediate. The riches which flowed hither to a centre from every corner of a diocese of princely extent, could not fail to prove the means of attaching a numerous body of the inhabitants to the individuals by whom they were dispensed. The progress of the Reformation did not, we may suppose, meet with disfavour among many of the burghers of Glasgow, because, like the countryman in the old ballad, they sorrowed for the times when, in the words of the lament—

> "We had our holy water,
> Our holy bread likewise—
> And many holy reliques
> We zaw before our eyes;"

but simply because they perceived that it would have a material tendency to injure their temporal advantages, and to affect the general prosperity of the place.

And that such fears were for a season amply realized, is well ascertained; for even previous to the outbreak at Perth, when the rude hands of the multitude were first raised against the religious houses, there appears to have been much anxiety felt amongst the members of the chapter of Glasgow, and it would seem that, in order to save them from impending confiscation, many of the prebendaries made over their houses to lay relatives—as in the instance of the parson of Moffat—or sold them to some of the Protestant party, who were not unwilling, perhaps, to secure at a low rate, and while it was yet time, a legal title to the property of the menaced churchmen. Very soon, accordingly, there was a mighty change in the condition of the burgh. The palace became deserted, and the prebendal houses were transferred to the hands of absentees, or were now occupied in poverty and gloom, while a host of servants and other dependants of their once lordly possessors were thrown penniless upon the town—no longer bearing it bravely, with some little "over and to spare," but compelled to forage as they best might for a precarious existence.* All this inflicted for a time a sad reverse upon the fortunes of Glasgow, and may well have led her citizens to sorrow over the change which saw, amongst others, the parson of Moffat obliged to become a stranger to his snug quarters in the Rottenrow.

By young Wardlaw of Torry, or some of its subsequent possessors, the building was transferred to Mr. John Bell, minister of Cardross, from whom it was afterwards

* In 1587, the inhabitants of Greyfriars' Wynd, while complaining about the removal of the markets from the Bell of the Brae to Trongate, represented to James the Sixth, that the said Wynd was decayed, and the high part of the town neglected, since the "blessed Reformation."—*Vide Cleland's Stat. Tables*, 1823, *p.* 170.

purchased, or rented, by one of the clergymen of Glasgow. M'Ure informs us that, at the period when he wrote, the *ci-devant* manse of the parson of Moffat belonged to "one Mr. Crawford." The expression "*one*," here made use of, is curious, and would almost lead us to suppose that, from some feeling of literary jealousy or other, the venerable annalist of the city was not on the best of terms in the world with the individual referred to; for, from documents which we have recently had an opportunity of examining, this "Mr. Crawford" appears to have been none other than George Crawford—even in M'Ure's time, the well-known historian of Renfrewshire. We are led to this passing inference from the evidence afforded by a manuscript contract bearing the date of 1752, and containing a disposition of the property, at the instance of "Patricia,* Bertheia, and Marion Crawfords, lawful daughters of the deceased George Crawford, *Historiographer* in Glasgow," who then received one hundred and forty pounds sterling for the house in question, with the court-yard behind. Crawford published his *Genealogy of the Stewarts*, and *Account of Renfrewshire*, in 1710, and his could not be a name unknown to one so much addicted to groping amid the antiquities of history as John M'Ure.

Little more can be said of this ancient edifice. After passing through a number of hands from the time when it was disposed of by the Crawfords, it came, in the year 1825, into the possession of the Glasgow Gas-Light Company, and is now occupied by some of the workmen in their employment. Thus, after the lapse of three, perhaps four hundred years, from the time of its erection, it still continues to witness beneath its roof the daily stir of life; and although under a mighty change of circumstances, yet it is far from being so debased in condition as are many once noted buildings, of much inferior antiquity, in other parts of the town.

By some persons this edifice has been looked upon as the old College, although it is certain, as will be afterwards shown, that the remains of any structure to which the name might be applied, are rather to be sought for on the opposite, or south side of the Rottenrow. Possibly enough, however, on either side may have been situated buildings set apart as the abodes of the students who attended our University in its earliest years, and the parson of Moffat's manse may have been one of these; but that any regular college buildings existed prior to the year 1459—when Lord James Hamilton bequeathed to the institution the lands on which the present class-rooms, etc. stand—is highly improbable, as we are told that when the University was first established, premises situated near the Cathedral, and close to the chapter-house of the Dominicans, had been granted by the bishop of the diocese, in order that the lectures in Theology and Canon Law might be therein delivered.†

* We find the following notice copied into the *Analecta Scotica*, Edin. 1834, Vol. I. p. 71. :—"Nov. 23d, 1795. Died at Glasgow, on Monday last, Miss Peter Crawford, [the sounding 'Patricia' has here dwindled into common-place] daughter of the late George Crawford, Esq., author of the *Peerage of Scotland*, of the *History of the Family of Stewart*, and of *Renfrewshire*."

† Cleland's "*Enumeration*," &c., folio, 1832, p. 46.

Immediately adjoining to that which forms the principal object in the plate, there exist the remains of a house which must have been of some consequence in its day, as it bears upon the front wall the traces of a sculptured escutcheon, which, being charged with a fesse chequy, most probably indicated the proprietorship of the Stewarts of Minto—a family whose connection with Glasgow was, it is well known, very intimate, and to which we shall again have occasion to advert.

RUINED HOUSE IN THE ROTTENROW,

(South Side.)

ON turning into the Rottenrow from the High Street, the curious in such matters will find the subject of our next drawing standing upon his left, a little retired from the line of the adjacent houses, and facing in grim and battered desolation what, in its case, may be called the last assaults of that triumphant enemy, Time. Divested of every vestige of former character and condition, unroofed and deserted, there, the skeleton of the building still holds its place—an object, of course, of special unconcern to the good people who live beside it, but not unfrequently favoured with the inquisitive notice of the stranger. We have endeavoured, but without success, to learn something of the age and actual history of this edifice. Tradition, speaking through some of the older denizens of the neighbourhood, has reported that here was the ancient college, and this is almost all that we can say about it. That it had in some manner been connected with the University in its infant years, either as the residence of the students or otherwise, is sufficiently probable, and even that it is in reality the structure so often referred to in ancient documents as "the Aulde Pedagog," we cannot pretend to deny. It is known from an old deed preserved in the charter-room of the University, that the said "Aulde Pedagog" was situated on the south side of the Rottenrow;* and if this information be coupled with the evidence of popular report, we shall not perhaps be very far wrong in looking upon this deserted ruin as the actual building which is there alluded to.

* " . . . . . de terris tenementi et loci nuncupati Aulde Pedagog / jacentibus in via Ratonum . . . ex parte australi, inter tenementum magistri Johannis Rede ex parte occidentali, et terras Roberti Reid ex parte orientali," &c.—The document is dated 1524.—*Vide* the Supplement to the "*Book of our Lady College*," &c., to be again referred to.

ROTTENROW.

Drawn and lithographed

The College, as is well known, was called into existence by Bishop Turnbull, who, in the year 1450, obtained from Pope Nicholas V. the bull that was necessary to confirm its establishment. As previously mentioned, this institution is believed to have been possessed of no buildings of its own for several years after its foundation, so that the tenement referred to as the "Aulde Pedagog," may have been simply used as a place of residence by some of the teachers or students, and not set aside as a place of assembly for the Faculty of Arts, for which the chapter-house of the Cathedral or that of the Blackfriars—said, in addition to the building lent by the Bishop, to have been granted for the purpose—must have proved much better adapted than the diminutive structure which this seems to have been.

Before leaving the Rottenrow—one of the oldest streets in the city—the following few particulars may have some interest with the general reader. They are gleaned from among the curious documents printed as an appendix to the volume of the Maitland Club publications, containing THE BOOK OF OUR LADY COLLEGE, &c.

In the year 1440 "Donaldus Taylyhour" burgess of Glasgow, sells to Master John "de Dalgles," one of the vicars officiating in the Choir of the Cathedral, a tenement with its appurtenances, namely, four carucates* of front land and garden, situated on the south side of the street called "Ratownraw," between the property of "Jonete Pyd" on the east, and that of the Sub-dean of Glasgow, known as "Deneside," on the west, for what seems the merely nominal sum of five merks Scots, ("quinque marcis vsualis monete Scocie") *i. e.* about five shillings sterling.

In 1425, it is agreed upon between that "venerabilem et circumspectum virum," the Sub-dean of the church of Glasgow, and "Willelmus Nicholai," burgess, with the consent of "Jonete," his wife, that, as the said William Nicholai, is considerably in arrear in the payment of the duties upon a tenement, on the north side of the Rottenrow, held in perpetual feu from the above official for the annual sum of ten shillings Scots, he consents to restore the property into the hands of the said superior; with the reservation in liferent to himself and his wife, or the survivor of the two, of the garden attached to the house in question, with the well, trees, and other "pertinents" thereunto belonging—the whole to revert at their demise into the possession of the Sub-dean. The instrument is witnessed—"Willelmo de Gowan canonico Glasguensi, dominis Johanne de Dalgles vicario ecclesie de Dregarne, Johanne Proctoure presbitero, Johanne de Neutoun vicario in choro Glasguensi, Johanne Wyschard balliuo," and three of the burgesses.

* The carucate signified, it is generally understood, a piece of land such as one team could plough during the season of preparing the ground for seed.

To conclude—in 1434, "Johne Stewart," Sub-dean of Glasgow, with the consent of the Bishop and Chapter, conveys "ane akyr of land of my land callit the Denesyde lyand in lynth and brede on the north syde of the comown strete callit the Ratownrawe next a west half the tenement of Thom Curouris," etc. to "Thome of Welk," a burgess of the town, his heirs and assignees. He or they "Gyffand to me and my successouris sodenes of Glasgu for the tyme beand, at two vsuall termys Quhitsonday and Martynmes yherly, sex syllingis and acht penys [of vsuale mone] of Scotland, ... the said Thome of Welk beand oblist to byg a sufficiand tenement on the said akyr of land within a yher followand the date of thir letrez and alsua to mac the half of the calse befor the forfront of the said akyr als far as to thaim pertenys and til vphald," &c. To this deed the seals of the Bishop and Chapter, together with that of the Sub-dean himself, were attached, and it is witnessed by "Schir Jon of Dalgles, Schir Richard of Are," vicars in the choir, and other persons.

OLD HOUSES OPPOSITE THE BARONY CHURCH.

THESE are some other buildings of ancient date, with regard to the precise age and history of which we have been unable to procure any authentic information. Only one of the two—that occupying the foreground to the left—is now in existence. In the style of its architecture it bears a considerable resemblance to the house in the Rottenrow which had appertained of old to the Parson of Moffat, and, like it, had probably been one of the Manses erected to accommodate the members of the Chapter of Glasgow. We cannot discover to which of the prebendaries in particular this domicile had belonged; but there can, apparently, be little doubt of its having seen the day when some one of the number was its occupant and proprietor.

The majority of the prebendal manses were situated in the Rottenrow and Drygate, a few stood in Limmerfield Lane, Kirk and Castle Streets, and one or two occupied other positions in the vicinity. Each would appear to have had its garden or orchard attached. It may be said, indeed, on the evidence of various old instruments of sale, and other papers, that almost every dwelling-house in this part of the town had been possessed of its garden, in which apple, if not other fruit-bearing trees, had seemingly made a respectable figure. In former times the wall of the Bishop's Castle extended before the windows of the building under notice, and the

embattled tower within looked loftily down upon it. The picture is now somewhat changed. Tower and wall have alike vanished; and to-day—*sic transit... !*—the noisy and "unwashed" beseat themselves to circean draughts, where once upon a time the board of the rich and envied churchman had, in all probability, been bounteously set forth. But it is needless to detain the reader where nothing of interest remains to be detailed. We must therefore leave this old house to the chance, should such ever arrive, of at some future period having its story made known.*

THE DUKE'S LODGINGS.

PRIOR to the Reformation there stood near the west end of the Drygate the respective dwelling-houses of the Rectors of Peebles and Eaglesham—two of the ecclesiastical residences which, like those previously mentioned, had contributed to bestow an air of comfort, and even of comparative distinction, upon the leading thoroughfares of the olden city. For probably a hundred years or more these buildings had existed in neighbourly proximity—receiving within their gates a succession of tonsured occupants—when, from the gloomy aspect of affairs, during the days of John Knox and his coadjutors, the last of the line were, like the incumbent of Moffat, made doubtful as to what might ultimately be considered the value of their titles to any "lands or pertinents" within the wide circumference of Scotland. It accordingly happened, that about the time we refer to, these two houses, with their appurtenances, passed into the keeping of lay proprietors—the first mentioned having been transferred to Sir Mathew Stewart of Minto, and the other to the "laird of Crawfordland," probably a relative of its last clerical owner, Mr. Archibald Crawford.

It is upon the site formerly occupied by these prebendal manses, and a portion of their garden enclosures, that the irregular pile of buildings known as the Duke's Lodgings stands at the present day. According to the best accounts of their history to be gathered from any particulars hitherto published, we learn with regard to the property acquired by Sir Mathew Stewart, that, in the year 1605 he caused a great part of the old house to be rebuilt, and otherwise, no doubt, to be so enlarged and improved as to render it the fitting abode of an ancient and opulent family, and that

* It may be observed, of the small building or booth erected beside it, that this was many years ago noted as the residence f the Glasgow Executioner.

from his grandson the property was acquired by the Dowager Marchioness of Montrose. In reference to the second building—the Rector of Eaglesham's manse—it would appear, that after having been transferred from the laird of Crawfordland to a succession of other proprietors, it was eventually purchased by James, the first Duke of Montrose, who had it demolished in the early part of last century, to make way for the erection of a more commodious mansion—of which, however, he only completed a part.

The portion which now remains of the buildings raised by Sir Mathew Stewart, is probably that which stands at the back of the principal range, and the main section of which immediately meets the eye, as we pass from the street through the entrance to the court behind. A part of the Rector of Peebles' former abode may still perhaps be visible in the ancient edifice which adjoins, on its western side, the principal building which appears in our front view, distinguishable by a series of "blind" or closed archways—and this last was, we are inclined to believe, the house erected by the Duke of Montrose.

As striking specimens of the old baronial, or ducal city residence, the well-known buildings we refer to will scarcely be thought worthy of particular notice. They, as a whole, present no features of architectural distinction; and the only portion indeed on which the casual visitor might incline to rest his attention, is that which, as before mentioned, stands in the court behind. This shows in its front some very large, and what were, no doubt, once handsome windows; and seems to have contained the principal hall in which, we may suppose, the hospitalities of the knightly house of Minto had been of old displayed—as, in prominent relief upon the exterior of the dark and shaken wall, may yet be seen a lone memento of former consequence, in the armorial bearings of that eventually reduced family.*

* There is a slight difference between the arms, as sculptured on this building, and the "bearings" usually given as those of the Stewarts of Minto, in so far as in the former the bend is surmounted *of* the fesse, instead of surmounting it. The proper blazonry, as given by the heralds, is described—"Or, a fesse chequy, asure and argent, surmounted of a bend engrailed, and in chief a rose, gules." This escutcheon is now borne by Stuart, Baron Blantyre—a descendant, through a second marriage, of that Sir John Stewart of Minto who died in 1583. Of this race was the "admired of all admirers" at the court of Charles the Second—the celebrated beauty, Frances Stewart.—For a representation of the Minto Arms, as sculptured on the wall in the Court of the "Duke's Lodging," see our concluding Plate (Fig. 3.)——The following is the inscription on their tomb—still preserved in the Cathedral:—

HEIR AR BVRIET S^{R}
WALTIR S^{R} THOMAS S^{R}
IOHNE S^{R} ROBERT S^{R}
IOHNE AND S^{R} MATHIEV
BY LINEAL DESCENT
TO VTHERIS BARONS
AND KNICHTS OF THE
HOVS OF MYNTO W^{T}
THAIR VYFFIS BAIRNIS
AND BRETHEREIN.

A worthy race for several centuries they seem to have proved—the successive Lairds of Minto; and as their connection with Glasgow was for a considerable period exceedingly intimate, we may be pardoned, perhaps, for dwelling a little upon their history, while looking upon these lofty casements through which the golden light had no doubt often shone upon the scenes of their gaiety and courteous display. The first of the line who acquired the lands of Minto, situated in the county of Roxburgh, was Thomas, third son of Sir Walter* Stewart of Dalswinton and Garlies—a lineal descendant of the ancient stock of Bonkill, and through it, of Alexander, the sixth Lord High Steward of Scotland. About the year 1472, in times when it was the practice of the Scottish burghs to select their chief magistrates from among the nobility, or the more powerful of the country gentlemen, Sir Thomas Stewart became provost of Glasgow, and dying in 1500, left the civic connexion which he had formed to be maintained by his son and successor, Sir John.†

In that disastrous year when King James the Fourth was mustering his forces for the march to Flodden, the above Sir John Stewart was chief magistrate of Glasgow, and he was one among the many Scotsmen of rank who assembled at the call of their sovereign, to sacrifice their lives in his defence upon that bloody field. This was a period of dread anxiety to the inhabitants, whose minds were kept in a state of painful agitation, between the moment when crowding rumours of evil began to be circulated, and that in which their worst fears were confirmed. As occurred in Edinburgh at the time, Glasgow was then deserted, we may believe, by almost all of the laity who were capable of bearing arms; and among such of the civic authorities as remained, it was, no doubt, a matter of great difficulty to restore the quiet of the city where all was in a state of confusion, and when, amongst other symptoms of calamity, the women might, as elsewhere, be seen lamenting in the streets for the loss of the husbands and fathers who were rumoured to have fallen with their provost in the fight. His body appears to have been recovered and brought to Glasgow—his name being on the list, as one of the race of Minto, who have their place of burial within the Nave of our Cathedral. The Sir John slain at Flodden had a brother named William, a good and virtuous man according to Douglas,‡ who was born in this city in 1479. He was made Dean of Glasgow in 1527, and was eventually elevated to the Bishopric of Aberdeen, where he died in 1545.

* Douglas in his *Peerage* calls him "William," but the monument in Glasgow Cathedral has it "Walter." He seems to have been the first of the family interred within its walls; and although he could not properly be so designated—as it was his son who first acquired the estate—still he is, in the inscription, mentioned with his descendants, as "of the house of Minto."

† Cleland in his "Annals" 2 vols. 8vo. 1816, has in one place (Vol. I., p. 158.) erroneously made Sir *John* Stewart provost in 1472—at p. 5, however, of the same volume he correctly has it "Sir Thomas." Subsequent writers seem to have made it a rule to copy with the utmost servility—errors and all.

‡ Peerage of Scotland.

The next in lineal descent was Sir Robert Stewart, Provost of Glasgow in 1528; and he was in turn succeeded by his son Sir John, who likewise filled the same, by this time, almost hereditary office. On his demise in 1583, the estates and honours of the family descended to Sir Mathew—the individual who built the houses in Drygate which have led to the introduction of this brief account of his predecessors. A few years previous, *i. e.* in 1580, this gentleman had been elected Chief Magistrate of the city; and we find that he again held the office in 1586. He lived in times when it was no easy matter for a person placed in his position to steer an even course; and—in consequence of yielding more to the authority of the King than to the wishes of the Presbyterian party—he would seem to have made himself somewhat unpopular with a portion of the citizens. M'Ure, indeed, not unbiassed by fanaticism, insinuates pretty decidedly that the conduct of this Sir Mathew Stewart, in vindicating the Royal authority against a certain party who wished to set it at defiance, had been the means of bringing down a curse upon the family of Minto. The story is, that when, in the year 1581, their much-thwarted King had presented to the see of Glasgow, Mr. Robert Montgomerie—a man, certainly, of no very stainless reputation; the stern Presbyterians of the city—hating Episcopacy in itself, and glad of an opportunity to invest it with additional odium from the character of the individual mentioned—resolutely determined to oppose his appearance in the Cathedral, where he was to deliver his inaugural discourse, by having one of their own party to take the start of him in getting possession of the pulpit. The individual who ventured to bear the brunt of the battle, in thus supplanting the Bishop in his Cathedral Church, was Mr. John Howieson, Minister of Cambuslang—by all accounts a man of great worth, and one who was not undeservedly respected in his day. As was concerted, he had taken possession of the clerical tribune, and was already engaged in addressing a crowd of hearers, when the Bishop made his approach, armed with his Majesty's warrant, when,—finding how matters were proceeding—he applied to Sir Mathew Stewart, then Provost of the city, to have the intruder ejected. This was accordingly done; but not before a scuffle had taken place, during which Mr. Howieson was somewhat roughly handled.—"Upon this," says M'Ure, "it is credibly reported, and has obtained universal credit here, that Mr. Howie (Howieson) denounced some judgement from God on Sir Mathew and his family;" and, consequently—as it so happened, that the fortunes of the house of Minto did, about a century later, rapidly decline—another instance was here held forth to the credulous, of the striking efficacy of, what could be called nothing else than, the "ban of the Kirk." Of the two immediate successors of Sir Mathew little is known;* the last of the line was his great-grandson, Sir John, who embarked in that unfor-

* In 1650 a Charter was granted to two Clergymen of Glasgow, with regard to their stipend, &c., by "Sir Walter Stewart, elder of Minto, and Sir Lodoveick," his son.—*See Note to M'Ure, Edit.* 1830, *p.* 210.

tunate adventure, the Darien Expedition, and who died upon the outward voyage in 1697.—For almost two centuries the members of this family had held a high position among the citizens of Glasgow—nearly as long a period has elapsed since the star of their destiny began to grow pale—and now, as things go in this mutable world, it is much to say that we still have amongst us—the veritable building which received them in life, and the original monument that was reared over their ashes. May the moral of their family motto never be lost sight of—

"Sola juvat virtus."

When he purchased the adjacent property, the first Duke of Montrose was already, it is probable, possessor by inheritance of the buildings which had belonged to the Stewarts of Minto. As formerly remarked, this nobleman only completed a limited portion of what he intended should be his residence in Glasgow; so that in the Duke's Lodgings, we see but the remains of an old, and the fragment of a later design. The first Duke was the great-grandson of the renowned Marquess of Montrose, and was Keeper of the Privy Seal in the reign of Queen Anne. He was a great advocate of the Union; and after supporting a highly respectable character in various situations of public trust, he finally closed his eyes upon the scene of mundane existence in the year 1742.

We regret that we can add nothing to this meagre notice of these old buildings, particularly as we believe they are doomed to a speedy destruction. As they do not appear, however, to have ever been the scene of any public occurrence of moment, it is not perhaps surprising, that what we know of them merely relates to the names of those by whom they were built, and to the noble family by which they were subsequently occupied.

THE GORBALS BARONIAL HALL.

IN directing the reader's attention to the principal edifice of olden date which it may be said to possess, a few words in reference to the ancient condition and history of the Gorbals may not be out of place; especially if we pause for a moment to contrast the present importance of the united suburbs of the south side of the river, with the rather unpromising character of the beginning which heralded their rise.

According to some occasional notices to be met with in the documents of former days, the whole of that almost level plain which extends from the bank of the river to the rising grounds about Langside was originally a bleak and barren moor*—covered, probably, with heath and scattered patches of furze, and over which passed one or two solitary tracks of road, leading towards the principal ford that admitted of a passage to the shrine of St. Mungo. Near this ford a ferry had, no doubt, been early established, and long before the erection of the wooden bridge—which, as will be afterwards more particularly noticed, is supposed to have been in existence so early as the year 1230—it is highly probable that a little hamlet had occupied the ground, now crowded by the rather unsightly buildings forming the entrance to the Main Street of Gorbals. It is, indeed, averred by that most bland and insinuating of all our city annalists, the Rev. Mr. Wade, that we have the authority of tradition for this belief; we may venture to conjecture, therefore, that the nucleus of the Gorbals showed itself in a few very rude dwellings, which rose by slow degrees in the vicinity of the ferry.

The light of anything like authentic history, however, only falls upon the spot with the advent of the time when that apparently worthy prelate, Bishop Rae, had entered upon the expensive task of uniting the two banks of the Clyde by a durable edifice of stone. This—for the age, important undertaking—was accomplished about the year 1350, and its completion was, doubtless, a matter of considerable consequence to the cotters on the south side of the river, and must, probably, have led to some increase of the little village established there. It has been generally reported that, about the same time, a certain "Lady Lochow" purchased much property on both sides of the stream; and that, animated by charitable feelings, she immediately afterwards established on that part of the moor subsequently called St. Ninian's Croft, an hospital for the reception of lepers, which she endowed in a befitting manner, and which long continued to exist—a drawback, no doubt, on the increase of the neighbouring hamlet; but not the less a monument of her benevolence and piety.

But with regard to this "Lady Lochow," some very singular blunders have been made, by almost all who have written upon the history of Glasgow. The originator of the whole is M'Ure, and—right or wrong—it will be found that his statements have, in general, been most servilely copied. According to his account, "the Lady Lochow" founded the Lepers' or St. Ninian's Hospital about the year 1350, and while the bridge constructed at the expense of Bishop Rae, was in course of erection. Of the cost of the structure, she requested, it is said, to bear a part, and was in consequence permitted by the worthy prelate to be at the expense of building one of the arches. Now, all this may be so far correct, and a Lady Campbell of Lochow may have performed both of those good actions while Bishop Rae ruled over the see of Glasgow,

* "Muir-heugh" is the term applied to it, *sub anno*, 1655.—Vide *Memorabilia of Glasgow*, (privately printed) p. 174.

which he did from 1335 to 1368; but that the said "Lady Lochow" was, as we are subsequently informed, none other than Marjory Stewart, daughter of Robert, Duke of Albany, grand-daughter of King Robert the Second, and wife of Duncan Campbell of Lochow, the first of his race who bore the title of "Argyle," is a piece of historical blundering which—singular at first—has become infinitely more remarkable from its frequent repetition in print. This will be sufficiently evident, when the reader is reminded that, at the period when the above charitable lady was, by these accounts, founding the Lepers' Hospital, &c., her reputed father could only have reached the juvenile age of about eleven years,* while Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochow, the person mentioned as her husband, must at the time have been still younger, as his death did not occur for a century after the date of her charitable undertakings—that is, in the year 1453. Had there been no mention of Bishop Rae, or of the construction of the bridge in the case, we might have supposed that our annalists had made a mistake in the date, and that, instead of 1350 we should read 1450 as the era of the foundation of the Lepers' Hospital in Gorbals; but as the matter stands, there is no such outlet of escape, and we can only record our surprise at the singular inattention which has so long perpetuated such a specimen of "History." If the middle of the fourteenth century was the period when the Lepers' Hospital was erected on St. Ninian's Croft, the benefactress to whom it owed its foundation, was probably the widow of Sir Colin Campbell of Lochow, who died about the year 1340. This lady was a daughter of the house of Lennox—many individuals of which are to be found mentioned in connection with the records of ancient Glasgow.

The Hospital, along with a chapel attached to it, was situated at a short distance from the bridge; and seems to have been, for a long period, the only building of any consequence which stood upon the south side of the river. Its establishment there, was naturally a drawback on the amenity of the neighbourhood, and may have prevented any great increase of settlers in that locality; so that, to form a mental picture of what was the appearance of Gorbals at about the period of the Reformation, the reader has but to recall to view the wide expanse of moor which once existed there, and to dot it, where it approached the bridge, on one hand with a few insignificant cottages, on the other, with the Leper's Hospital, its chapel and enclosures, and to the south of all, with a number of antique-looking barns, which it is said had been there erected for the storage of the tithes, brought up in kind from the western divisions of the diocese.†

After having been for a lengthened period in possession of the family of Argyle, the superiority or proprietorship of St. Ninian's Croft would seem to have passed

* Robert, Duke of Albany, third son of Robert II., was born about the year 1339.—Vide *Douglas's Peerage*.

† Vide *Brown's History*, ii. 115.

into the hands of the Church, as we find, according to M'Ure, that the lands of "Gorbels" were (about 1578) disposed of by the Protestant Archbishop, Boyd, who then enjoyed the temporalities of the see, to a gentleman of the name of Elphingston, a merchant in Glasgow,* and a descendant of that individual—a younger son of the noble family of Elphingston—who is said to have settled in this city during the reign of James the First, and to have been amongst the earliest active promoters of the trade of Clyde.† From Mr. Elphingston the acquisition which he had made descended to his son George, afterwards known as Sir George Elphingston of Blythswood; and it is in connexion with his name that we have, in the first instance, to make allusion to what is called the Gorbals Baronial Hall.

The history of Sir George Elphingston is rather a melancholy one, and his life presents us with the not unfrequent spectacle of a case, in which the favouring gales of fortune had long borne it along only to leave the bark of human hopes a stranded wreck at last. Of a respectable family, and born to the enjoyment of considerable opulence, he seems to have early occupied a high position in the favourable regards both of the King and of his fellow-citizens. From the one he received the honour of knighthood, and by the others he was, on several occasions, appointed Provost of the burgh. He was afterwards created a Lord of Session, and eventually, in the reign of Charles the First, was elevated to the dignity of Lord Justice Clerk.

It was probably between the years 1600 and 1606, when his connexion with Glasgow seems to have been most intimate, that he resolved upon the erection of a residence on his property of St. Ninian's Croft. With this view he inclosed part of the ground as an orchard or garden, and built a portion of those old houses which have only of late begun to disappear from the vicinity of the larger structure. Besides these buildings—fragments of a design, which he apparently never completed—he likewise, we are given to understand, erected a small chapel adjoining. This chapel formed, latterly, a portion of the general pile, and a part of it still exists at the corner of Main Street and of "Rutherglen Loan."‡

After the enjoyment of much high preferment and success in life, a change invaded the fortunes of Sir George Elphingston, the causes of which we are unable to discover; suffice it to say, that he became so very poor, and so utterly deserted in his need, that when death at length closed his earthly career, his body is said to have been arrested by his creditors, and was only afforded the rites of decent sepulture through the instrumentality of a few friends, who had it privately interred,

* According to some accounts, Mr. Elphingston acquired the property by marrying the prelate's niece.—*Vide* Brown, i. 116.

† M'Ure, p. 93, Edit. 1830.

‡ Wade says of Sir George, that "he is also understood to have built an ancient-looking fabric, called the Chapel, and said to have been dedicated to St. Ninian;" p. 231.

Allan & Ferguson lith. ... Argyll Street

BACK VIEW OF THE OLD BARONIAL HALL, GORBALS,
EXISTING IN 1846

according to M'Ure, "in his own chapel adjoining to his house."* If it be the case that the remains of Sir George Elphingston still repose in that locality, let us hope that, amid the destruction which seems to threaten the entire pile of buildings, erected by him and his successors, there will be some one at hand to see that there be no rude desecration of his grave, and that his bones be decently transferred to another place of rest.

On the death of Sir George Elphingston, the property in St. Ninian's Croft was sold by his creditors to Robert Douglas, Viscount Belhaven,† a descendant of the family of Morton. This nobleman seems early to have resolved on completing what his predecessor had left unfinished, and he in consequence made great additions to the Mansion in Gorbals, giving, what, for the period, might be called an imposing appearance to the whole, by the erection of the quadrangular Tower—a principal object in both of our views—and, it may be, of the portion adjoining, which connected it with the Chapel. Until within these few years the Tower in question was terminated by four turrets, which added considerably to its architectural effect; at present, the bases on which these turrets rested, alone remain. On the front of the building, to the west of the Tower, may still be seen the family arms of Viscount Belhaven, tolerably well cut in stone, and exhibiting, covered by modern gilding, the well-known cognizance of the Douglases—the Heart surmounted by a Crown—and above it, "in chief" of the shield, the figure of a bird, or "martlet, close," placed between two stars. On the top of the whole appear the initials S. G. E., apparently meant for those of Sir George Elphingston. These may possibly indicate that the portion of the edifice on which they appear had been erected by him; if so, the arms referred to must have been transferred to their present position, from perhaps some part of the tower, and at a comparatively recent date.‡

This nobleman, dying without issue, was succeeded in his estates by his nephew, Sir Robert Douglas of Blackerston, who, about the year 1650, sold the entire Barony, with the Lepers' Hospital and grounds once set apart for its support, to a

* He died about the year 1634. It was in his favour that the village of Gorbals was erected into a Burgh of Barony and Regality. It was probably to Sir George Elphingston's father, who seems to have been the purchaser of Blythswood, that the following curious notice refers, under date of January 8, 1579–80.

"The whilk daye, George Herbertsoun, is fund and decernit, be probatioun of famous witnes, in ye wrang, for ye iniuring and dispersoning of George Elphinstoun, ane of ye bailzies of Glasgw, in cuming him to him on ye hie gait yr of, and saying, how he durst be sa part [ready] to deill ony vynes wt out his avyse, and incontinent yaireftir, for drawing of ane quhinger [hanger or sword], and mytene [threatening?] yairwiyt to ye said baillie, and yaireftir madiatlie for iniuring of ye said George, ballie, wt in ye tolbuyt of Glasgw, geveand to him mony iniurious words, siek as naif, skaybell [worthless fellow], matteyne, and lowne, and that he was gentillar nor hie, haveand his hand on his quhinger, ruggand it halflines in and out, and yat he carit him not, nor ye land yat he had nowther," &c.—Vide *Burgh Records of the City, (Maitland Club,)* p. 119.—In 1575, we find "George Elphinstoun of Blytisuod" mentioned.—*Ibid.* p. 45.

† Sir Robert Douglas of Spott, Haddingtonshire, was Page of Honour, and afterwards Master of the Horse, to Henry, Prince of Wales, the promising son of James VI. He was subsequently Gentleman of the Bedchamber, both to James and to Charles I., and was created Viscount Belhaven in 1633. He was latterly blind, and died in 1639.—Vide *Douglas's Peerage.*

‡ The reader will find in the last plate of the present series (Fig. 4) a representation of the Coat of Arms referred to.

sort of copartnery, which was entered into for the purchase, by the town of Glasgow, the Trades' House, and the Trustees of Hutchesons' Hospital. In the volume of *Memorabilia* already referred to, we find, under date of 5th February, 1648, that mention was made at a meeting of the Council, of "ane bargane the towne micht halve of the Gorballs" when it was "thocht expedient that thair be Commissionaries chosin to go eist to buy the same."* These Commissioners were provided with full power to conclude a bargain, the "moneys" of Hutcheson's Hospital to be made use of in part payment of the purchase, and it is probable that the business was soon afterwards brought to a close. From an entry, however, in the Burgh Records, † it would appear that the suburb of Gorbals was not formally annexed to the city till the year 1661. At this period it was ordained that some "Constables be choysen there for keiping of good ordor;" but that no "Baillies" should be appointed among the residents on the south bank of the Clyde. To conclude with this brief notice of the history of Gorbals, this suburb remained till 1790 under the joint superiority of the three bodies previously mentioned. At the epoch in question a division of the territory was effected, and the central portion came into the possession of the town, under which it remained in a species of feudal dependence, till the spirit of resistless change stalked forth in recent times and "set the bondman free."

We need not, however, have entered on such particulars, had not the various changes which have occurred in that locality been the means of materially affecting the fortunes of the building which forms the proper subject of these cursory remarks. With the sale effected by Sir Robert Douglas, the state and consequence of his predecessor's mansion-house must have greatly declined. As the property of a gentleman of distinction—whether occupied by him or not, it held a position among its compeers which necessarily commanded a certain measure of respect; but as an acquisition of the civic authorities—perhaps the least promising item of their "bargain"—a mighty change was upon it; for who could tell to what base uses the halls of departed rank might, from economical motives, be consigned. The building may, however, have long remained unoccupied, as, most probably, it would not have proved a suitable or desirable "retreat" for any of the "merchant princes" of Glasgow, if such there were at the time.

The next allusion to it that we have happened to meet with, occurs under date of 18th July 1670, when—and mark the singularity of the terms—the Bailies and Council "ordains ane tack to be wrytten and subscryvit in favors of Sir James Turnor, of the tounes houss and tour in Gorballs, quhilk he presentlie possesses,

* P. 164.—In Sir R. Douglas's Charter of Alienation in favour of the authorities of the city, mention is made of the lands of "Gorbals and Brigend," with "Coals and Coal hewghs," &c., and the "towr, fortaleice, maner, place, houses, bigins, yeards, and orchards."—Vide *M'Ure, Edit.* 1830, *p.* 54, (NOTE.)

† *Memorabilia, p.* 232.

THE MERCHANTS' HOUSE, BRIDGEGATE

Allan & Ferguson Lith.

VIEW FROM THE WINDMILL CROFT LOOKING EASTWARD

FROM A DRAWING EXECUTED [illegible]

and that dureing his lyfetyme, for payment yearlie of thrie punds Scots, if the samyne be requyred." * The date of this very accommodating document carries us back to the days of Charles the Second, at a period when the spirit of persecution was rampant in the north. Sir James Turner was commander of the forces in Scotland, and, it may be supposed, was a person of sufficient importance to render the proffered free possession—as it really was—of "the tounes houss" in Gorbals, a wisely conciliatory act on the part of the authorities, who had certainly at that time much cause for "fear and trembling," lest any outbreak should occur from the bitter hostility to all spiritual subjection which existed among the people in and around the city. How long the building continued to be occupied by Sir James Turner we cannot say. In later times, one part of it was converted into a school-house, and another into a prison; while still more recently the remains of the little chapel have been made use of as a place of public meeting by the inhabitants of Gorbals.

Placed, as it is, in a now densely crowded, and anything but attractive locality, this old baronial mansion is but rarely visited by the stranger; and indeed it has, of late years, been so denuded of most of the traces of its former importance, that, at the present day, its appearance will probably rather disappoint than otherwise, the determined adventurer who threads his way among the kennels of Main Street to bestow one inquisitive glance upon its time-shadowed walls;—for there, no "drooping bough or mantling ivy green" adorn and half conceal the progress of decay. With the garden and orchard which once flourished around it, every trace of nature's vitality has disappeared, and the old house now raises its arid walls in the noxious atmosphere of a mean and crowded district.

THE MERCHANTS' HALL.

THE incorporation known as the "Merchants' House" may be said to have had its origin in the year 1605, when, in consequence of some disputes between the craftsmen of the city and those of their fellow-townsmen who aspired to the title of "merchant venturers," the proper position of each party was, by mutual consent, authoritatively defined, and what is called the "Letter of Guildry" was promulgated as the Charter of the Merchant rank. This agreement was confirmed by parliament in 1612, and thus, being duly united, and raised to an ostensible and highly respect-

* *Memorabilia*, p. 288.

able position, the burgesses of Glasgow who traded beyond seas, soon formed a very important body—their incorporation becoming powerful in influence, and in the means, through a fund established for the purpose—aided by donations and legacies—of disseminating relief to such of their number as had experienced the reverses of fortune.

That the progress of the Merchants' House in wealth and consideration was somewhat rapid, may be inferred from the circumstance, that within fifty years of the time of its establishment, the members of this association possessed, collectively or individually, the spirit and the means required to enable them to proceed with the erection of such a building as that which forms the subject of our notice. Viewed in connexion with the period of its foundation, and with the then comparatively small numerical importance of the population, this certainly formed, while it existed, a striking monument of the liberal and expanded views which, so long ago as during the protectorate of Cromwell, had animated the merchant burgesses of the "goodly city" of Glasgow.

Designs for the structure having been procured from Sir William Bruce of Kinross—at an after period architect to Charles II.—the building was commenced in 1651, and was finished in 1659. The steeple, however, was not completed till a somewhat later period, as appears from some of the entries to be found in the Records of the Burgh. The years which went past while the Merchants' Hall was rising into existence by the waters of Clyde, were years of much importance to the commercial interests of the nation, and the peculiar features of the time seemed to foreshadow a future of great promise to the trading energies of the people. Under the resolute measures of Cromwell, seconded as they were by such a man as Blake, the flag of England had become respected in a high degree over all the civilized world, and the openings which, in consequence, presented themselves to her commercial enterprize, were considerably augmented; while the presence of increased security in the navigation of the seas gave animation to the progress of adventure, by adding to the prospects of success. That the traders of Glasgow were not slow in availing themselves of whatever lay open to their grasp, favourable to an increase of their yet infant connexion with other countries, we may well believe; and, doubtless, there were many occasions, while their handsome hall was in course of erection, when its proprietors had reason to congratulate each other on the improved prospects held forth by some heavy blow inflicted, perhaps on the pride of the Hollander or Spaniard, or by the destruction of some of the pirate hordes which then infested the great highway of nations.

Many years have elapsed since the building was demolished, but the reader will be enabled to form, from the accompanying plate, a pretty accurate idea of the general appearance it bore. Standing, with its ornamental front, upon the line of the Bridgegate, when that street was graced by some of the most notable mansions

in the city, and backed by the really handsome spire which towered above its roof, the old Merchants' Hall must have made no despicable appearance in its day, and was probably boasted of by the inhabitants as not to be surpassed by any structure of a similar character from the Sands of the Solway to John o'Groat's. From M'Ure, we learn that the building was seventy-two feet in length, that the entrance in front was "very fine and splendid," and that above it were placed the figures of three old men "resembling the decayed members of the merchant rank, and a ship with full sails, with the arms of the city, all purely cut out of free-stone." Denholm's description, published in 1804, states that the edifice consisted of "two stories of ashler work," the lowest, or ground flat, on each side, being occupied as shops, and the upper floor containing a range of large windows,* with triangular pediments, which gave light to the Hall. "On each side of the principal entry from the street," he adds, "are two doric pillars, with an ornamental entablature, and, immediately above, two columns of the Ionic order inclose a sculpture in *bas relief*, representing a vessel, and in another compartment, three old men in the habit of pilgrims." As to the interior, he says, that "after passing through the lobby, and ascending the staircase, you enter into the Hall—one of the largest in the city, being about eighty feet in length, and near thirty wide." In this place of meeting was hung up a list of the Deans of Guild, dating from the year 1605, besides several portraits of benefactors to the poor of the Merchants' House, and a long catalogue of others whose names were worthy of commemoration as donors to the funds of the institution. This hall, we are also given to understand, was "exceedingly well lighted," and at its centre there hung pendant from the ceiling the "large and beautiful model of a ship, with her whole tackling."—What, with one ship over the doorway, another suspended in the hall, and a third facing the breezes of heaven—let them blow as they list—from the topmost pinnacle of the spire, we have pretty strong evidence of the great degree of interest with which the merchants of Glasgow had looked towards the ocean and its paths of commercial adventure, while the star of Cromwell was yet in the ascendant, or while the reign of the second Charles had but recently begun.

Immediately under the two compartments occupied by the sculptures above noticed, there was placed an inscription in Greek and Latin,† indicating the date

* M'Ure says, "fourteen chess windows."

† Thus given by M'Ure—the reading of Denholm is somewhat different :—

"ΑΠΟΡΕΜΠΟΔΟΧΕΙΟΝ hoc, civitatis Glasguanæ mercatorum, pia liberalitate et impensis fundatum, Æræ vulgaris ciɔiɔcli. Denuo munificentia reædificatum, auctum, et ornatum est ciɔiɔclix.

Mutuat Jehovæ, qui largitur pauperi ;
Et retributionem illius reddet ei."

Or, in the language of the Proverbs—

"He that hath pity upon the poor, lendeth unto the Lord ;
and that which he hath given, will he pay him again."

when the building was commenced, and likewise that at which it was completed; and conveying the information that it had been founded by the merchant citizens of Glasgow, with—as it may be read—the most pious liberality of feeling, and a due indifference as to expense. In addition to the various lists of benefactors beforementioned, there was likewise suspended in the Hall, a painted board, on which were inscribed, in quotations from Scripture, a number of directions, expressive of the principles on which the trader might buy and sell with a safe conscience. This was, indeed, quite in keeping with the character of the times, and was in every respect appropriate to the place—reminding the merchant burgesses in all their public assemblies, that, even as regarded the daily avocations of their worldly career, the words of guidance were to be found in the sacred charter of their faith.

With regard to the two pieces of sculpture which stood over the principal entrance in Bridgegate, it may be mentioned, that they are still preserved, and may be inspected by the curious, in the present Merchants' Hall, Hutcheson Street. In the last plate of the volume, the reader will find a faithful representation of these stones —the one bearing its "stately bark," with sails widely distended by the favouring gale; the other its three bearded "pilgrims," apparently bending beneath the weight of penury and years.

In the selections from the Minute Books of the Burgh, to which we have already referred, there appear various notices of the old Merchants' Hall and its spire, which, to the local antiquary, possess considerable interest. Amongst the earliest of these is an entry under date of 10th November, 1660, from which it appears that the erection of the Hall itself had absorbed all the funds which were contributed for the purpose, and that the steeple was in danger of being left in an unfinished state, unless some means could be found of providing for the expense of its construction. Under these circumstances, the Magistrates and Council—taking into consideration that the said steeple would prove "far moir profitabill to the toune than to the Hospital"—resolved to give their aid to the advancement of the undertaking, and accordingly voted sundry balances, of "excys" and "bukit" money, as well as some remaining proceeds resulting from the sale, apparently, of a house in "Evandaill," in order that the "shame and disgrace" might be avoided, of having the promising spire in Bridgegate arrested in its heavenward ascent.* The undertaking does not seem, however, to have proceeded with any great celerity, as we find that the steeple was still in course of erection in February, 1663; when the Dean of Guild and the Deacon Convener are mentioned in the Council Records as having been recommended to "provyd for ane knock and ane paill of belles to be put in the steiple now in building in the Briggait;" while, at the same time, it was ordained that "the tounes armes be fixeit on the belles."

* *Memorabilia*, p. 215.

By some two years later, the edifice appears to have been at length completed. At this period the temper of the authorities would seem to have been sadly tried in the matter of that very important adjunct, the clock. In their minute of December 9th, 1665, it is stated that "the Baillies and Counsell, taking to their consideratioune how the toune hes been slightit be Jon. Brodbreidge in not performing his ingadgment in relatioune to the perfecting the knock in Briggait, It is concluded that he be seased upon by the Magistrats, and compellit to performe theis his ingadgments; and as for the chymes he wes to mak there, for sundrie guid reasones it is concludit that the samyne chymes be maid and put up in the stiple of the tolbuith." In the end "Borbreidge," as he is subsequently designated, would appear to have been concussed into the fulfilment of his contract, as, from the treasurer's accounts, we learn that in 1668, he received the sum of 312 pounds Scots "in compleat payment of his making of the knock in Briggait, and chymes in the tolbuith, and uthir wark." The last of these notices of the building with which we shall detain the reader, is sufficiently curious, from the minuteness of its details—*exempli gratia* (4th October, 1736)—"ordain Robert Cross, theasaurer, to pay to Robt. Fulton, coppersmith, £2 „ 3 „ 2, for making a new jack pinnet,* and new ensign, raising the main mast and fore mast, and making a new rudder, and other reparations on the ship on the Bridgegate steeple." The "ship" in question is one of the minor objects of public notoriety familiar to most of those who have been nurtured in Glasgow, and the mere allusion to its existence may awaken to many, recollections which recall the morning feelings of other days—yet, until meeting with the preceding extract, few, we dare to say, would have imagined that the object of their juvenile interest was of such notable and approved construction, that each individual mast had at one time been thought worthy of public attention, and that the very rudder itself had found "honourable mention" in the public Records of the City!†

From the period of its erection till within the last forty years, the Merchants' Hall continued to serve the purposes for which it was originally designed. Eventually, however, owing to its position in a part of the city that was being gradually abandoned to its present fallen condition, and to other causes, its demolition was resolved upon, and the edifice, along with some adjacent ground, was, in consequence, disposed of, in the year 1816 or 1817, to parties who soon afterwards had it taken down, and other buildings reared upon its site. But with patriotic care was the adjoining spire saved from the hands of the destroyer, and on the spot whence it has for so long a period looked down upon the increasing city, it still remains—not now,

* Pennon.

† It may be here mentioned, that the dwelling-house of Mr. Aird, who was Provost at various times from the year 1705 to 1722, stood opposite the Merchants' Hall, having one front to the Bridgegate and another to the Goosedubs, formerly (and in all truth, more happily) called Aird's Wynd.—*Cleland's Stat. Tables, &c.*, 1823, p. 180.

it is true, environed by the very best of company; but still, in itself, a landmark of other days, which, if stone and lime could be imagined to indulge in such freaks, might well laugh at the objects which have in modern times been graciously favoured with the appellation of "steeples." On the sale of their Hall, the Merchants' House—not, perhaps, altogether forgetful of ancient liberality on the part of the civic authorities—came to the resolution of transferring to the citizens generally the proprietorship of its spire; at the present day, therefore, it constitutes one of the items in the list of our civic possessions; and the above is, probably, the first instance on record in which it ever fell to the lot of a body of merchants to indulge in the "presentation" of so stately a gift.

To the south of the Merchants' Hall, and occupying the ground now covered in part by the pile of building called Guildry Court, there existed, in former times, a flower garden, which was surrounded by a high and substantial wall. Many of the dwelling-houses around had, no doubt, similar appendages; and we may be certain that, at a distance of time much less than a hundred and fifty years, the entire neighbourhood of Stockwell Street and Bridgegate was enlivened by the presence of various garden inclosures, and by the waving branches of many a "leafy bower," which, although partly hidden from the street in front, caught, in the background, the eye of the more distant observer, and fixed his admiration upon the pleasing amenity of the scene.

It may, finally, be observed, on the authority of Dr. Cleland, that prior to the year 1740, the dancing assemblies of the citizens were held in the Merchants' Hall; which assemblies seem to have been of rather more frequent occurrence than might have been expected from the sedate and somewhat severe character of the times. A great deal may be done, however, to change the aspect of affairs with the wives and daughters of a mercantile community, when any *rara avis* from amid the ranks of the aristocracy happens to alight amongst them; and when it is known that the once noted Duchess of Douglas had condescended to be a frequent leader of the dance in the "Briggate" of Glasgow, it is possible enough that the usual sobriety of its worthy dames had been somewhat unhinged, and that, in consequence, the sounds of revelry and mirth were, on many an occasion, to be met with there.

THE BROOMIELAW, FROM THE WINDMILL CROFT.

THE view which appears on the same sheet with that of the Merchants' Hall is copied from a somewhat homely engraving, executed, it is believed, about the year 1760, and affords a curious picture of the aspect of our harbour in that early stage of its existence, when, as yet, it was only visited by the fisherman's wherry, or by the humble trading vessels, which now and then made their appearance, freighted with domestic produce, from the coast of Ireland or the Western Isles.

The original drawing has been taken from a point not very distant from where the Glasgow Bridge now opens into Eglinton Street; the ground in that locality being, till within the last forty or fifty years, a rough uncultivated waste—broken, where it approached the river, into numerous hollows and indentations, which had been formed by the winter currents along the soft and crumbling banks. To the right of the plate may be seen the remains of an ancient tower, said to have been part of a windmill, erected by Sir George Elphingston about the beginning of the seventeenth century, for the accommodation of his tenantry upon the neighbouring lands, and from which the adjoining common received the name of the Windmill Croft. Farther on is the Old Bridge, till within the last eighty years the only one which spanned the waters of the lower Clyde. It terminates upon the north, in what seems to have been a remaining portion of the Water Port, and near which may be observed successively approaching the eye, the indistinct outline of Allan Dreghorn's house—to be afterwards more particularly mentioned—a mansion of somewhat similar appearance which formerly stood beside it, the Old Town's Hospital, and nearer still, the trees of the favourite promenade called the "Dovecote Green." On the left appear a few detached houses, some of which were removed to allow of the formation of Jamaica Street, and, prominent above all, rises the old bottle-work cone—a building erected in 1730, and the predecessor of that which was removed from the same spot about fifteen years ago.

The formation of the original quay in 1662,* with its "weigh-house," fountain, and "cran," was, probably, the first innovation which materially changed the old rustic appearance of the Broomielaw. The subsequent erection of the bottle-work made, no doubt, another alteration of some consequence; but the greatest change of all took place between the years 1767 and 1773, when the first Jamaica-street Bridge was carried across the stream. Five or six centuries ago, the place, as the name would lead us to suppose, was, in all probability, an open common—marked by some trifling rise of the surface now indistinguishable, on which waved, in more than common luxuriance, the golden blossoms of the broom. By the time of James the

* On 24th July, 1662, it is ordained that "ane litle key" should be constructed at the Broomielaw.—*Memorabilia*, p. 239.

Fifth, however, or even earlier, the lands at the Broomielaw would seem to have been in some measure cultivated, and to have been subdivided amongst a number of proprietors. In the curious documents which had belonged of old to the Collegiate Church of St. Mary and St. Ann, there is frequent mention made of the "*terræ campestris,*" the field-lands of the "Brumelaw," and as often do we meet with the names of various individuals who are taken notice of as proprietors of certain particular portions of the ground.* How far this condition of things had been encroached upon before the city authorities determined on the erection of a quay, it is now difficult to say; it may be justly inferred, however, that down to the period of the Restoration, the Broomielaw was a very rural spot—marked, perhaps, with a few cottages, and bounded on the north by some of the malt barns which probably stood, even thus far to the westward, on the road to Dumbarton.

When the merchants of Glasgow were landing their imports on the coast of Ayrshire, and never dreaming of any nearer approach for their vessels than Dumbarton or Newark, it may readily be supposed that the accommodation of the small craft which came up to the city was a matter of no great consideration. In reality, the influx of boats at the Broomielaw was probably so trifling, and the idea of disbursing money for their accommodation was so long of being entertained, that, prior to the reign of Charles the Second, the place may scarcely have deserved the name of a harbour at all. † The quay erected in 1662-63 ‡ appears to have been of stone, faced with beams of wood, and extended from St. Enoch's Burn, nearly opposite the present Custom-House, to a short distance below the site of the present Bridge. This undertaking appears to have been looked upon as of considerable

* These documents have been lately printed for the Maitland Club, under the able editorship of Joseph Robertson, Esq. We have already referred to the volume which is entitled "*Liber Collegii Nostre Domine Registrum Ecclesie B. V. Marie et S. Anne,*" &c.; and, amongst many other notices, relating to our subject, contained in its pages, may be particularized the following, which all have reference to the possessions with which the different prebends of "our Lady College" were endowed, viz.:—

"vna acra terre cum dimedia jacente in Brvmelaw inter terras vicariorum chori Glasguensis ex orientali et terras quondam Dauid Menteith ex occidentali," &c. (p. 28.)

"vna riga terre jacens in Brvmelaw," &c. (p. 37.)

"vnam rigam terre campestris jacentem in Brvmelaw," &c., with other pieces of ground situated "in eadem crofta," (p. 42.)

"tway riggis of land liand in the Brvmelaw betwix the lands of Schir Martyn Reid on the west part and the landis of George Colquhone on the eist."

But the most curious notice of all, as dating in every probability from the time of James the Third, or Fourth, appears among the Muniments of the Blackfriars, printed in the same volume. In this, John of Govan, a burgess of Glasgow, gives to the Prior and Brethren "conuentus ordinis Predicatorum de Glasgv" . . . . . "septem rigga iacentia in campo de Bromilaw inter terrarum domini Walteri de Roule," &c. &c., and, besides, he bestows another "rigg" adjoining; which eight riggs were, at the date of the instrument, possessed by "Martin Sutor," at the rental of five shillings sterling, (quinque solidos sterlyngorum) per annum. (P. 156, and Preface, xliv.)

† In 1660 the river above that point was so shallow, that it was usual to have coals shipped at "Meikle Govan."—*Memorabilia,* p. 204.

‡ Dr. Cleland inadvertently states that the first quay at the Broomielaw was not built till after the Revolution of 1688.—(*Vide* his *Statistics,* folio, 1832, p. 153.)

importance by the authorities of the day. In the Records of the Burgh, under date of the 23d May, 1663, there is an entry in which the Provost, senior Bailie, Dean of Guild, and Deacon Convener, are recommended "to have ane cair of the new key now building at the Broomelaw;" a fortnight afterwards it was ordered, that a "way hois" (weigh-house) should be built near it, and that the back of the quay should be filled up with sand—the "masters of families" being called upon to send their servants to assist in the work.* In 1722, an addition appears to have been made to the original wharf, as, in the Records of that year, it is stated that masons had been agreed with to furnish stones for, and to build the "key," from the Broomielaw to the "Dowcat Green."† In 1792, a second extension of the harbour was effected, and in 1811, a third; since which period it has been gradually advancing to its present size and importance.

With regard to the trade and shipping of Glasgow about the middle of the seventeenth century, we think the following account deserves a wider circulation than it has yet received. It is extracted from a report, dated in 1656, and drawn up by Thomas Tucker, a person appointed in Cromwell's time to act as supervisor of the customs and excise in Scotland. The document is addressed to the "Right Honourable the Commissioners of Appeals," and a copy of it is preserved in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh:—

"Glasgow, a very neate burghe towne, lying upon the bankes of the river Cluyde, which riseing in Annandale runns by Glasgow and Kirkpatrick, disburthening itself into the frith of Dunbarton. This towne, seated in a pleasant and fruitful soil, and consisting of foure streets, handsomely built in forme of a cross, is one of the most considerablest burghs of Scotland, as well for the structure as trade of it. The inhabitants all, but the students of the college which is here, are traders and dealers. Some for Ireland with small smiddy coales in open boates from foure to ten tonnes, from whence they bring hoops, ronges, barrell-staves, meal, oats, and butter. Some for France, with pladding, coales and hering, (of which there is great fishing yearly in the western sea) for which they return saltpetre, rozin, and prunes. Some to Norway, for timber, and every one with theyr neighbours the Highlanders, who come from the isles and western parts in summer, by the Mul of Cantyre, and in winter by the Tarbon (Tarbat) to the head of Loquh-fyne, (which is a small neck of land over which they usually draw theyr small boates into the frith of Dunbarton) and so passe up into the Cluyde with pladding, dry hides, goate, kid, and deere skins, which

* Another notice on this subject appears under date of June 13, 1663, in which it is ordered that the "key" be "heightit twa stones heigher nor it was ordained to be of befor," and the Dean of Guild is desired "to try for moir oakin timber in the Hie Kirk," &c. "for facing thereof.—Vide *Memorabilia*, p. 246.

† *Ibid*, p. 472.

they sell, and purchase with theyr price such comodityes and provisions as they stand in neede of from time to time. Here hath likewise been some who have ventured as farre as the Barbadoes, but the losse they have sustained by reason of theyre going out and coming home late every year, have made them discontinue going thither any more. The situation of this towne in a plentiful land, and the mercantile genius of the people, are strong signes of her increase and groweth, were she not chequed and kept under by the shallowness of her river, every day mineasing and filling up, soe that noe vessels of any burden can come nearer up than within fourteen miles where they must unlade, and send up theyr timber and Norway trade in raftes on floates, and all other comodites by three or foure tons of goods at a time in small cobbles, or boates of three, four, five, and none above six tonnes a boate. There is in this port a collector, a cheque, and four wayters, who at this place, *Renfrew*, *Arskin* on the south, and *Kirpatrick* on the north side of the Cluyde, with *Dunbarton*, a small and very poor burgh at the head of the frith. The former of these are inhabited with fishermen that make hering, and trade for Ireland with open boates, and the latter gives shelter sometimes to a vessel of 16 tons or thereabouts, comming from England or Ireland with corne.

"The number of ports of this district are, 1st, *Newarke*, a small place where there are (besides the laird's house of the place) some foure or five houses, but before them a pretty goode roade where all vessells doe ride, unlade, and send theyr goodes up the river to Glasgow in small boats, and at this place there is a wayter constantly attending. 2d, *Greenock*, such another, only the inhabitants are more, but all seamen or fishermen, trading for Ireland or the Isles in open boates. Att which place there is a mole, or peere, where vessells in stresse of weather may ride and shelter themselves before they passe up to Newarke, and here likewise is another wayter. 3d, *Fairley*, *Calburgh* (Kelburne?) *Saltcoates*, shoares only for roade withe a few houses, the inhabitants fishermen, who carry fish and cattell for Ireland, bringing home corn and butter for theyr own use and expence. A wayter extraordinary here takes care of these places, and advertises the head-port when any thing comes thither. 4th, *Bute*, a small island being in the mouth of the frith, under which some vessells in stormy weather shelter themselves, but pass afterwards up the river. The inhabitants are all countymen and cow-heards, and make some woollen cloth which is carryed to bee dyed and dressed at Glasgow, where they buy still whatever they have occasion of for theyr expence and provision. And, lastly, *Irvyn*, a small burgh towne, lying at the mouth of a river of the same name, which hath sometime been a pretty small port, but at present clogged and allmost choaked up with sand, which the western sea beats into it soe as it wrestles for life to maintain a small trade to France, Norway, and Ireland, with hering and other goods brought on horseback from Glasgow, for the purchasing, timber, and wine,

and other comodites to supply their ocasions with. The vessells belonging to this district are,

Glasgow, { 3 of 150 tons. / 1 ... 140 ... / 2 ... 100 ... / 1 ... 50 ... / 3 ... 30 ... / 1 ... 15 ... / 1 ... 12 ...

Renfrew, 3 or 4 boates of 5 or 6 tons a piece.
Irvin, 3 or 4, the biggest not exceeding 16 tons."

The following remarks upon Tucker's Report, published some years since, are well worthy of being reprinted:—

"This report gives a more accurate account of the Trade and Shipping of Glasgow than any document which we have seen relating to the early period when it was drawn up. The progress of improvement after this was rapid, as we find that instead of the 12 vessels carrying 957 tons in 1656, Glasgow had 66 vessels in 1692. The very small number of vessels belonging to the other ports on the West coast, gives a melancholy picture of the poverty of this country at that time. It will be seen that Dumbarton and Greenock had no vessels except small open boats, engaged chiefly in fishing. Newark appears to have been well known and frequented as a harbour before it was purchased and improved by the people of Glasgow in 1668.

"One of the great impediments to our trade was the shallowness of the Clyde, which was intersected by numerous islands, fords, and sand-banks. In a map published in Bleau's *Theatrum Scotiæ* in 1654, there appear no less than six islands between the bridge of Glasgow and the mouth of the Cart. These were:—1st, a small isle a little below the bridge. 2d, Water Inch, at the mouth of the Kelvin; the north channel was filled up, but still visible. 3d, White Inch; this was a large isle, and the name is still retained by a farm on the north side of the river; the north channel was filled up, but is still visible in some places. 4th, Buck Inch, a little lower than the former. 5th, King's Inch, a large isle; it is now on the south side of the river. Upon this isle stood the Inch castle, the property of the family of Ross; the castle was demolished by Mr. Spiers about the year 1777, and in its neighbourhood he built a large house. A little farther west, but on the main land, and adjoining the town, stood the castle of Renfrew, built by Walter, the son of Alan the first Stewart, about the year 1170. The castle was demolished more than a hundred years ago, but the ruins are still visible and retain the name of Castle Hill. Crawfurd, who wrote in 1710, says—'This castle was situate on a pretty rising

ground called the Castle Hill, *upon the brink of the river Clyde;* from whence there has been a very agreeable prospect of the country many miles distant every way, and surrounded by a deep fosse.' The south channel of the river, which passed close by the town of Renfrew, having been closed up, Castle Hill now stands at a considerable distance from the Clyde. The lands of Castle Hill now belong to Mrs. Brock, who lately (1831) built a house a few yards north of the site of the old castle. 6th, Sand Inch; this isle lay contiguous to, and immediately to the west of King's Inch; a part of the south channel still appears behind, and to the west of the new ferry-house, which stands near the east end of the isle. The ground here has undergone considerable changes in consequence of the ferry having been moved west from Blawarthill to its present situation, and a canal cut in 1786 from the south channel of the Clyde to Renfrew.

"It appears that about the year 1600, or soon after, the magistrates and community of this city had laboured to improve the navigation of the river. In 1633 the Act of parliament in favour of Glasgow, states the 'great charges and expenss that the provost, baillies, &c. hes sustenit thir many yeirs bygane, in making of the river Clyde portable for shippes, boattes, barkes, and other veshels for importing and exporting of forraine and hameward comodities.' For all the great charges incurred by the worthy magistrates, we find by Tucker's account that only small vessels carrying from 3 to 6 tons, could get up to Glasgow in 1656. The river continued in nearly the same condition till the year 1770, as we find by the report of James Watt, Oct. 20, 1769, that the Hirst, a shoal extending from the Broomielaw to the Brewery Quay at Anderston, had only 1 foot 3 inches depth of water at ebb tide, and 3 feet 3 inches at high water. In 1770, Mr. Golborne of Chester began to deepen the river from the lower end of Dumbuck Ford to the Broomielaw. This undertaking was finished in 1775, when the river was sounded and found to be 7 feet deep. The Dumbuck Ford extended 600 yards up and down the river, and the Hirst was a quarter of a mile in length, according to Watt's report in 1769."*

To the above extracts we have nothing of material interest to add. It may, however, be observed, that the Bottle-work, or Glass-house, as it was called, seems to have been a doubtful speculation for some time after its establishment. The principal, if not only, articles produced, were common green glass bottles, and for these the demand was originally so limited, that the workmen engaged in their manufacture were only employed for some four months in the year.†

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* These extracts are taken from a periodical work entitled the *Literary Rambler*, published at Glasgow in 1832.

† *Cleland's Annals*, 1816, vol. ii. p. 371.

At the time when the preceding observations were about to be put into the printer's hands, a discovery was made, in the neighbourhood of the Broomielaw, well calculated to fill the mind with speculations upon the condition and appearance of that locality at a period so remote, that the times we have just been referring to appear, in comparison, to be removed but a very insignificant distance from our own. We allude to the disinterment, by the workmen engaged in enlarging the harbour at Springfield, of an ancient canoe, which had been imbedded 17 feet in the sandy soil, and at the distance of about three hundred from the present margin of the stream.

This relic of a very primitive age in the history of our country, has been formed from a single piece of timber—the trunk, we may believe, of one of those giant oaks which overshadowed, in their day of life, the gloomy solitude of the ancient Caledonian forests—and has most probably been hollowed, with the aid of fire, by the rude hands of some "barbarian Briton." It measures rather more than eleven feet in length, twenty-seven inches in breadth, and, where the sides are in best preservation, about fifteen in depth. The fore part of the little vessel is almost entire, but at the opposite extremity the sides are entirely gone: here there is a groove extending across the bottom, which leads us to suppose that this end of the tree had been entirely cut away, and that a separate piece of wood had been fitted into the groove mentioned, so as to form a stern. The sketch at page 49 will, however, give the reader a better idea of the appearance presented by this ancient relic than would any written description, however minute.

We have just been referring to the aspect of the Broomielaw at such periods as the era of James the First of Scotland, and that of the Commonwealth; and even these are sufficiently remote to present a picture in astonishing contrast with the scene which lies before the visitant to our waters at the present day. What, then, would be said to a mental glance at the spot, which should go back into the times when the little canoe before us was seen to rest upon the stream—paddled from bank to bank by some skin-clad inhabitant of the adjacent woods, or floating in the shallow current, secured, perhaps, to the branch of some withered tree, stranded upon the margin of the river?—A vision purely imaginary might be looked for as the result. Still, however the imagination might require to be called into play, there are not awanting some valid grounds, on which a tolerably fair conjecture might be based, as to the general appearance of the Clyde and the country through which it flows, even at that distant epoch when the rude bark of the half-naked savage was, as yet, the only description of vessel which had reposed upon its waters.

Subsequent to the Roman Occupation, the currach, or basket-boat covered with skins, was the description of vessel which seems to have been principally made use of upon our northern rivers. We may, therefore, venture to look upon the relic discovered at Springfield, as bearing an antiquity of perhaps sixteen or eighteen

centuries, if not more. The eye which then wandered over this locality from any of the rising grounds adjacent, would probably behold the untrammelled river sweeping along, in a broad but islet-broken course, by banks covered, in some places, with masses of impenetrable brushwood, or—where the soil was of a firmer nature—by the sombre drapery of the forest; and in others verdant, for many a long extent, with the sedges and reeds which sprung up in the numerous lagoons, laid under water at every rising of the stream. There the repose of nature was as yet unbroken, and silently the years went past over the spot that was to resound in the future with the daily clamour of the spreading city.—In solitude stood the oak, we may suppose, by the then full and rapid waters of the Molendinar—unvisited were the birch and hazel by the brooklet of St. Enoch. Where the Broomielaw extends, the mountain plover was accustomed, perhaps, to make her nest, amid the bent-like grass—and there, upon the hill of Blytheswood, the wolf, it may be, looked from her lair upon the startled roe deer that bounded across the holm below.—But enough of such speculations—the natural consequences of indulging in the flights of fancy over the wreck of this ancient vessel. The reader, however, will perhaps allow us to conclude the subject with the following serio-burlesque verses, written, apparently, in humble imitation of Horace Smith. If thought at all worthy of the space allotted them, they will have come to hand opportunely enough:—

TO THE OLD CANOE OF THE CLYDE.

What com'st thou to reveal—thou battered ark,
From out thy sandy bed so rudely hurried,
Will thine appearance serve to throw one spark
Of light upon the age when thou wert buried?

Are we to place thy day in that which saw
The Druid stalking yonder, near the college;
Or shall we on the time more fitly draw,
When Rome had filled the land with camps and knowledge?

Mayhap that, later still, thou sawest the plight
Of this poor country, when, with shouting voices,
Rushed Pict and Scot to chase her out of sight,
And gulp Civilization's choicest slices.

Alas! old wreck, thy voice is sealed and dumb,
And we are left to ponder in conjecture,
On what thou might'st have told, if it had come
Into our fortune but to hear thee lecture.

There was a time, no doubt, we know it well,
When the fair river on whose breast thou floated,
Saw many a warrior pass its tide, to swell
The ranks led on by king or chieftain noted.

Then was it e'er thy luck to ferry o'er,
From bank to bank some Caledonian hero—
Galdus himself, perhaps, or, what is more,
The very Graham who made the *Dyke* a Zero ?

A time there was within thy ken mayhap,
When Priest of Baal himself would cross the river;
Had'st e'er the fortune, then, from thy dark lap,
Such valued cargo landward to deliver ?

Did'st ever see a Roman heave in sight,
Proud as the Lucifer of fabulous story,
In life-guard helm, and kilt, and sandals dight,
Light in the purse, perchance, but rich in glory ?

Thou wert, no doubt, long buried by the age,
When Kenneth came with radical opinions
To filch the crown of Cumbria, and to page
Dunwallon's kingdom with his own dominions.

Nath'less thou answereth not, we fain would know
Some chance particulars of thy private story—
But who can pierce the secrets, old canoe,
Locked in that look of thine so grim and hoary ?

What was thine owner ? Did he scour the plain
With skin tatooed, and as untamed as any
Wild boar or wolf he warred with ; or, again,
Had he e'er learned to win an "honest penny ?"

Full oft, it may be, thou hast borne the weight,
Within that hold of thine, so small and narrow,
Of many a noble hind, or such like freight,
Brought down in forest near by spear or arrow.

A father's hand, perchance, has steered thy way,
To bring the food his little homestead 'waited,
While blue-eyed "young barbarians" from their play
Rushed forth to meet the spoil, with joy elated.

Ah, could'st thou speak, doubtless thou might'st unfold
Full many a story worth a place in history ;
But as it is—farewell unto thee, old
Spec of an age where all is doubt and mystery.

Fain would we longer dream, but lo, the sound
Of passing time peals o'er the busy city,
And we must hie to mingle in the round
Of modern stir and strife—the more's the pity !

THE FORMER HUTCHESONS' HOSPITAL.

THE name of Hutcheson is of old standing among the burghers of Glasgow. Under the various forms of "Huchisone," "Huchonsoune," "Hugosoun," with some others, it is to be frequently met with in ancient documents—filling a respectable place in the "muster rolls" of the civic rulers, the men of the law, and the official dignitaries of the church. Many a respectable offshoot, in truth, has the parent tree sent forth; but, of all the different branches which have flourished in their turn, there is none that will so long continue verdant in public esteem as that to which belong the names of George and Thomas Hutcheson, the founders of the important institution to which we have now to refer.

The father of these individuals seems to have been a person of considerable substance and repute. He was, apparently, what might be termed a "gentleman farmer," and was for some time a tenant, under the Bishops of Glasgow, of the lands of Gairbraid, on the Kelvin; eventually, however, he became proprietor of the same, under a feu granted in 1588, by Walter, Commendator of Blantyre, who possessed the royal authority for disposing in this manner of a portion of the church lands.* Of the personal history of his sons but little is known. George, the eldest of the two, was born, probably, about the year 1585, and, after a life of honourable prosperity, he yielded to the final claim of nature in 1640. Thomas, as appears by the inscription on his tombstone in the cathedral grounds, was born in 1588 or 1589, and survived his brother but a single year. Both were members of the legal profession, and although they perhaps possessed some wealth by inheritance, they must have been eminent as men of business, to be able to amass the respectable fortunes which it was in their power to devote to the purposes of charity. The fact of their having been successful in accumulating money, appears, in the case of George Hutcheson at least, not a little surprising, should all his charges have been on a parallel scale with those referred to by M'Ure, who states that he was "very moderate in his fees;" so much so, that it was reported of him that he never would accept of more than sixteen pennies Scots—that is less than $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ sterling, for the writing of any ordinary bond, let the sum it referred to be "never so great." Both appear to have been married men, but neither left any legitimate descendants.†

It was between the years 1639 and 1641 that the two brothers, at different periods,

* M'Ure, Edit. 1830, p. 67.

† While mentioning that his brother Thomas had been married, Dr. Cleland (*Annals, &c.*, vol. ii. p. 124) states that George Hutcheson (of Lambhill) died a bachelor. This information is evidently a mistake, as may be perceived from the following extract, given as a note at page 67 of the edition of M'Ure's work published in 1830:—

"Elizabeth Craig, spous to George Hutchesoune of Lambhill, within the burt of Glasgow the tyme of hir deceis, deceist vpon the xxix day of October, 1632."

J. WILSON, Grad.
ROBERTSON

"mortified," as it is termed in Scotland, upwards of £3,800 sterling, to be applied to the foundation of an institution intended for the support of aged and decayed citizens, and for the education and maintenance of indigent orphans, "or others of like condition," sons of burgesses of Glasgow. Besides which, they bestowed, as the site of a building to be occupied by the recipients of their bounty, a "tenement of land," situated to the westward of the "*old* West Port,"* with a barn and barn-yard adjoining; and on this spot was commenced in 1641, the erection of the structure represented in the eleventh plate of our series. The foundation stone was laid a few months previous to his death by the then surviving brother, Thomas; but the edifice was not completed, apparently, till about the year 1660.†

The locality selected by the Hutchesons for their Hospital buildings was, no doubt, well chosen. On the one hand, it was situated in the chief western thoroughfare of the town, and at a point where the projected structure could not fail to add, with effect, to the handsome appearance of the street—meeting, as it would do, the traveller's eye whenever he had passed the corner of the adjacent gateway, to remind him, it may be said, at the first step, that the virtue of charity was a "goodly gift." On the other, it looked forth upon an open and airy neighbourhood—on the garden allotments which preceded the formation of Wilson Street, and farther off, upon the rural lands of Ramshorn and the green boundaries of the Pavilion Croft.‡ With regard to the building itself, when at length completed, in so far as it ever was so, no very minute description is required. It was, what may be termed, a respectable pile, somewhat deficient in height—less pretending in external appearance than the Merchants' Hall, with a quadrangular court behind, of which, however, only two sides—those to the south and west—were ever built upon as originally intended. Like most edifices of a public character erected in Glasgow during the 17th century, it possessed a spire, not unlike that of the College, but of smaller size. The entrance was by a gateway decorated with rustic masonry, and the interior comprised, besides accommodation for the pensioners, a school-room or hall, of respectable dimensions. On the north side of the steeple, which rose at the back of the main building, were placed in niches those two statues of the founders of the institution which now occupy the recesses in front of the Hospital in Ingram

* The old West Port, which stood in Trongate, near the termination of the present Brunswick Place, having fallen into decay, was, in 1588, removed to the west of the "Stockwallheid," where the West Port stood in 1641.

† In reference to the completion of the building, the following notice appears in the Burgh Records (Vide *Memorabilia*, p. 197):—

"7th Jan., 1660.—The same day Hendric Glen, Maister of Hutchesones Hospitall, is warrandit heirby to wrytt to Pearth for ane plaisterer there to come heir for plastering of the said Hospitall."—Was such a person as a qualified plasterer not to be found at that era in the City of St. Mungo?

‡ Also known of old as the Lang Croft. The ground is now occupied by Cochrane Street, &c. It received the appellation of the Pavilion Croft from the circumstance of the Earl of Angus having encamped his forces there, to the number of 12,000 men, when in arms against the Regent Albany, in the minority of James V.—*Denholm*, p. 115.

Street; * while, over the entrance in Trongate, there was an inscription on a marble tablet, which announced, in gilded letters, the purposes of the building, and the names of the individuals whose philanthropy had called it into existence.

We see, in the plate, the old structure under a changed appearance, with the innovation of shop-windows and sign-boards disfiguring the original elevation of its front; but these alterations having arisen from, we may believe, prudential motives, were not, perhaps, to be altogether condemned—at all events, the day of their existence has long since receded into the past. The accompanying drawing, indeed, may be said to give a picture of the building as it appeared when the fiat had already gone forth that was to level it with the dust. The act of demolition occurred in 1795, to admit of the formation of Hutcheson Street—a proceeding called for by the rapidly increasing value of the property behind.

It has been already mentioned, that much of the ground situated between the line of the Trongate and the "Back Cow Loan"—a narrow road which has given place to Ingram Street—was occupied as gardens, many of them having been places of public resort pretty much frequented by the citizens in former times. In reference to the unfinished court of the old Hospital, of which a representation is given in the annexed plate, it seems to have, at all times, been pretty freely made use of as a place of juvenile recreation. In the drawing may be observed a number of boys at play, and this, we are informed by the gentleman who kindly furnished the original sketch, may be termed a reminiscence of the last game at ball ever engaged in there. In earlier times the place seems to have been desecrated by the presence of very different scenes; as it appears that, in 1688, the proper authorities had found it necessary to ordain that "no dancing masters or fencing masters" were to be permitted to teach in the Hall, "*nor any bull-baiting allowed in the closs of the Hospital.*" †

For a lengthened period the income of this institution was only sufficient for the support of twelve old men, and the education, &c. of as many boys. In course of time, however, the sources of its revenue have become so highly productive, that it has long since taken its place as one of the most important among the "charities" of private foundation which exist in Scotland. In times past (as at present) the management of the establishment seems to have been of a prudential and careful, yet considerate character. The young orphans, or sons of indigent parents, received within its walls, were provided with that best of passports into the busy field of life—a plain but substantial education; while their physical acquirements were also attended to. Nor were the recreations of youth exiled from the spot, and many a time

* According to the Burgh Records, it appears that, in 1655, (Nov. 24) it was agreed upon that James Colquhoun should receive five hundred merks Scots, "for the hewing, forming, and putting up of Mr. Thomas Hutchesounes poirtraitur in the Hospitall," &c.

† *History of Hutchesons' Hospital*, p. 66.

and oft, it may be imagined, did the old court, represented in the plate, ring with the merry voices of a stirring band, who, although with the usual levity of youth insensible, it may be, for the time, of all that was due on their parts to the memory of the men whose motionless forms looked down upon their sports from the twin niches of the spire, would, in after life, perhaps, cherish a grateful respect for the names of their benefactors. As to the old men—the recipients of a bounty intended to smooth the rugged way which usually lies before the steps of penury and age, the retreat provided by the care of the Hutchesons must, in many a case, have proved a welcome haven of rest—a haven within which the shaft of poverty was to be deprived of its keenest sting, and the chill remembrance of adversity to be tempered as it passed.

Any regular details as to the progressive history of the institution or the statistics of its income, will not be expected here. We have only, therefore, before leaving the subject, to refer to one or two random particulars with regard to the Hospital and its inmates, which may possibly be thought worthy of notice. The cost of the structure from the period of Mr. Thomas Hutcheson's death till its completion was £26,194:8:11 Scots; this sum included £99 for two "marble stones" brought from London, and £100 for "carving and lettering the marble table above the entry".* Among the earliest purchases of ground effected by the patrons of the institution, were "four rigs of land" situated behind the Hospital, and which were bought from the College for £333:6:8 Scots.† About the year 1650 occurred the more important transaction which placed this charity in possession of one half of the lands of "Gorbals and Brigend." Additional heritable property was, from time to time, acquired; none of it, however, deserving of any particular notice, except, perhaps, that ancient mine of building materials called the "Crackling-house Quarry," filled up sixty years ago, and over the site of which the line of Dundas Street has since been led. Here, in 1744, the patrons of the Hospital made an unsuccessful attempt at boring for coal;‡ had the search been fortunate, it is probable that the locality would have presented at the present day a very different appearance from what it does.

As to the scholars and pensioners of Hutchesons' Hospital, we learn from M'Ure, that the boys, in his time, wore no distinctive dress, and that the old men only did so on Sundays, when they usually proceeded in a body to a pew set apart for them in the Tron Church, clad in dark grey cloaks which had the sleeves and collars faced with green. He adds, however, that their appearance in this dress was not strictly required, because, as he states it, "many decayed burgesses of respect and credit retire thither in the decline of their age." In later times the boys have been clothed in a uniform style, and one of the most interesting sights which periodically present themselves on

* *Cleland's Annals*, ii. p. 127.
† *Ibid.*
‡ *Ibid*, ii. p. 131.

our streets, is that which to them enlivens the day, when the scholars of the Hospital assemble clad in the new dresses, in the joyous season of spring. It is on the 26th of April that the children belonging to the various charitable institutions and free-schools of the city are still, we believe, accustomed to assemble at the Hospital in Ingram Street, from which they walk in procession to attend divine service in St. Andrew's Church, whence they are afterwards conducted to their respective school-rooms, or halls, and there provided with an excellent dinner. The day, as may be well believed, is one of high expectation to the children as well as to their parents; and as it occurs at a season when the revival of nature exerts a happy influence on every side, and offers the thousand treasures of field and garden for ornamental display, there is always to be seen in the juvenile procession, a great exhibition of flowers, stuck in cap or jacket by affectionate hands, and setting off with a doubly cheerful effect the ruddy faces of the children, and the holiday appearance of the dresses in which they are on that occasion, for the first time equipped. It would be a matter of regret indeed, were this simple ceremonial to be allowed to fall into dissuetude; a little more publicity, coupled with some additional display, might even perhaps be bestowed upon it with good effect; at all events, it certainly will never, in the mind of the working man, add to the distance which seems to divide him from the upper classes, when he beholds the magistrates and other inhabitants of superior station mingling in the light of guardians among the children of the poor, and giving their public countenance to such an exhibition as that we have referred to.

As previously mentioned, the founders of this Hospital left no lineal descendants, but it would seem that they had several nephews and a niece, to some, if not all, of whom, the eldest brother, Mr. George Hutcheson, left respectable legacies. These would appear, however, to have soon melted away in their hands, as we are told that two of them, or of their descendants, eventually died in poverty within the walls of the Hospital which the charity of their ancestors had reared; at so early a date, indeed, as the year 1660, it is on record, in the sederunt book of the managers, that George Pollok, son of Margaret Pollok, "lawful sister's daughter to the foundators," was received to be "interteined" in the Hospital, and, at the same time, in consideration of the said Margaret Pollok being the nearest of their kindred then in existence, it was agreed upon that she should receive a donation "for her present help and supplie," of twenty Pounds Scots.

Like his celebrated contemporary, George Heriot, the elder of the Hutchesons left a natural daughter; and in the lives of both these hapless descendants of men who had done so much to relieve the unfortunate, there is the singular coincidence, that they were equally compelled to become, in their latter years, dependents on the charity of those amongst whom the twin institutions of their fathers were dispensing many a blessing. Heriot's daughter was married to a person who dissipated a

THE LATE ROBERT [illegible]'S HOUSE, GREAT CLYDE [illegible]

handsome fortune which had been bequeathed to her, and she was eventually, when in very reduced circumstances, obliged to apply for support to the managers of her parent's bounty. Of the history of George Hutcheson's daughter, we know nothing further than that such a person existed, that she latterly lived, and died in Holland, and that she received a pension from the city of Glasgow.*

On the south side of the Cathedral, and near its western end, may still be seen the monument erected to the memory of Mr. Thomas Hutcheson, which affords a tolerable idea of the fanciful taste of the age in such structures, when even the aid of gilding was not thought inappropriate to the decoration of the tomb. It bears a Latin inscription which mentions that he died in 1641, at the age of 52.

OLD HOUSES IN STOCKWELL STREET, &c.

THE next plate in the series contains four subjects, all perhaps, with some degree of interest attached to them, as the representatives of particular periods in the progress of bygone times. The first of these—respectable alike from its years, and from the traces of ancient importance which yet linger upon it—stands upon the east side of what was formerly known as the "Stockwallgait"—originally, no doubt, a mere country road, leading from the ferry or bridge, and for a length of time bounded only by a few straggling cottages, which, in their turn, gave way to a better class of buildings, somewhat similar in appearance to that represented in the picture before us.

The earliest information we have been able to meet with in connexion with this old house, is contained in a legal document drawn up in 1599; from which it appears that the spot it occupies formed at that period a portion of the site of three small tenements, with adjacent inclosures, commonly known by the name of "yeards." These tenements having previously become ruinous, were, in the year 1668, disposed

* The following extracts from the Burgh Records, have reference to the subject, (*Memorabilia*, pp. 315, 331, 338):—

"18th Jan., 1679.—The said day ordains . . . to pay to Johne Craig ten dukadounes, (ducatoons) quhilk is threttie-fyve punds Scots, quhilk he is to send to Holland to Jonet Hutchesoune, naturall daughter to umqll George Hutchesoune, for her supplie; And it is concludit that als much be sent her yearlie during her lyftyme."

From Treasurer's Account, September, 1683.—"Item (paid) to John Brysson in name of umqll. George Hutchisone's naturall daughter, for her yeirs pensioune, allowed to her yeirly—60 *lib.* 0*s.* 0*d.*"

"17th July (1684)—The said day ordaines John Fleyming, Dean of Gild, to pay to Jean Main thretty Pounds Scots, for helping to pay the funeralls of Jonet Hutchesone ane pensioner of the toune who deceist in Holland."

of to a Mr. John Caldwell, who had them demolished, and their places supplied by two edifices of better appearance, and more respectable pretensions, which stood in juxta-position upon the line of the street. The one to the south was many years ago removed, to make way for a modern erection; the other still braves the adverse assaults of time, and is the house which forms the subject of the view.

Although this lingering relic of the age of the "merry monarch" may be traced to have passed, at successive periods, into the possession of various individuals of respectable standing among the merchants of the city, we have nothing to repeat in connexion with its domestic history, nor any old stories to unveil, which might recall one trait of their lives and labours from the nameless graves of those who had experienced the destinies of our being—the currents of joy and sorrow beneath the shadow of its roof. Barren, then, of anything like what could be called a "tale," this aged domicile solicits a passing notice, simply from its external appearance, and from the curious contrast which it presents to the plain unprepossessing neighbours in whose company it stands. The alterations effected in modern days, have certainly not improved its looks; the traces, however, of a former respectability are there, with much that speaks of a "bein" and comfortable standing on the part of its earlier possessors. The style of its architecture is one which seems to have been in considerable favour between the period of the Restoration and the times of William the Third; and, while this building was still in the freshness of youth, its numerous mouldings sharply defined, and the abundant carvings over the upper casements unbroken and clear, we may easily conceive that it presented no unattractive front to the line of the then semi-rural Stockwell Street. Behind it was a garden and summer-house, both of which are referred to in the old title deeds of the property—quiet places of retreat to which the industrious citizen could retire when the hours of his business occupation were past, to observe, perhaps, the young inheritors of his name disporting among verdant walks, and plucking, it may be, the favourite berry from its "thorny bower," or the ruddy apple from the parent tree; and all this in what has become one of the most noxious localities in the city—the immediate vicinity of the Old Wynd!

At the present time, this old house is in the possession of more than one proprietor or tenant: the lower floor being occupied as spirit cellars, the upper one as workshops. The appearance of the interior presents almost nothing that can be thought suggestive of better days, and of everything antique in and around the structure, it may well be said, "the glory is departed."

The adjoining compartment of the plate is occupied by the sketch of a homely and nondescript kind of building, which was removed some twenty years ago from the lower part of Stockwell Street. There is nothing to be said about it farther than to remark, that this record of its appearance has been "secured to posterity,"

as the specimen of a class of houses at one time pretty numerous throughout the town. We are ignorant, however, as to the date of its erection, but few would, on this account, refuse it a place amongst the other illustrations of old street architecture which diversify the volume.

The third of the four subjects in the plate before us, gives the view of a house which may still be seen, occupying a position at the angle formed by Stockwell and Great Clyde Streets. The portion which presents its front to the former is, to appearance, a comparatively recent erection, and forms merely an addition to the older building which rises behind it. This more ancient part has been an edifice of no trifling pretensions, and seems to have been reared with more than ordinary care and expense, as the appearance of its walls, both towards the street, and at the back, sufficiently testify. We have heard it stated that this was anciently known as the Custom-house, and it may not improbably be that which is mentioned in the Burgh Records as standing near the Bridge in 1643.* This may, therefore, be identified with the building of which a part is shown beyond the archway of the South Port in the first plate of our series—Slezer's view of Glasgow from St Ninian's Croft. †

Next to the above, and last of the four, we have a sketch of the mansion occupied some forty years ago by an individual who may be termed one of the public characters of his day, Mr. Robert Dreghorn. He was the son of Mr. Allan Dreghorn, joiner in Glasgow, from whom he inherited a respectable fortune; and was indebted for his general notoriety to the circumstance of his having been looked upon by his fellow-citizens as one of the ugliest men of the age, and, at the same time, a most passionate admirer of the gentler sex. To many of the seniors of our city his personal appearance must be perfectly familiar, and the recollection of the dread with which the mention of his name was wont to inspire the juvenile branches of the community, may, probably, in some instances, be recalled to them from the distant vista of actual experience. To such as knew him not, it will serve no good purpose to revert to the story of his eccentricities, or to dwell upon that freak of nature which, after all, may have planted the thorn of bitterness in a not unkindly heart, and have led, by its effect upon the feelings, to the catastrophe which terminated his existence, in, we believe, the year 1806.

The house in Great Clyde Street was erected by his father, a person who enjoyed the distinction of being the first in the city to introduce the novelty of a private carriage. ‡ It has been a handsome structure, and is not unworthy of pictorial

* *Memorabilia*, p. 128.

† The site of the old Custom-house seems to have been occupied in 1487 by a building, the property "Roberti Stewarde prepositi Glasguensis," and which, we are informed, stood adjoining to the "Barres Yeth," (South Port?) on the west side of the street.—Vide *Registrum Episcopatus Glasguensis*, (Maitland Club), p. 453.—We are not confident, however, as to the site of the "Barres Yeth."

‡ This was constructed by his own workmen. Dr. Cleland mentions that Robert Dreghorn's grandfather began to work the Govan Colliery in 1714.—"*Enumeration*," &c. p. 186-9.

Coal pits, however, were sunk in Gorbals Moor at a much earlier date.—(Vide *Memorabilia.*)

preservation, as indicative of the style of building which was patronised by the wealthier classes of Glasgow during the earlier part of the reign of George the Third. At that era the extension of the city had proceeded with rapid steps, especially as regarded the better class of dwellings called "self-contained." A profitable colonial trade was then on the increase; and as their prosperity advanced, the merchants of Glasgow seem to have pretty generally discovered that the quarters they had anciently possessed on the common stairs of the Trongate or Saltmarket, were but poorly adapted for its becoming display. Hence arose the handsome edifices of Miller Street, Argyle Street, Queen Street, and other localities, all of which bore something of a common likeness—the style being tolerably well represented in the mansion of the Dreghorns.

After the death of the last owner of the name, his abode in Clyde Street long remained unoccupied, and acquired, in vulgar belief, the reputation of being haunted. This was enough to invest it with every sort of suspicion of a diabolical nature, and it long had the prëeminence of being looked upon with dread. With the lapse of time, however, every unearthly tenant would seem to have been routed from the field, and the halls of "Bob Dragon" have been latterly converted into a receptacle for the sale of old furniture and other commodities of a similar description.

OLD HOUSES IN HIGH STREET,

(East and West Sides.)

ON the interior side of that part of the wall of the Cathedral churchyard which skirts the passage leading to the "Bridge of Sighs," there may be seen a plain slab of stone, inscribed with these words—"Here lyes the body of Patrick Maxwell, son of John Maxwell of Allhouse, Mercht. Taylor; who died deacon convener 1623, & Bessy Boyd his spouse." The John Maxwell of Allhouse, or Auldhouse, as it is now written, here referred to, was a cadet of the family of Pollok, having been a lineal descendant of that Sir John Maxwell of Pollok who lived in the time of James the Fourth.* The Patrick Maxwell of the inscription was a younger son, who, having settled in Glasgow as a trader, had the good fortune to be successful in his calling, and to elevate himself to a position of high respectability.†

* *Crawford's Renfrewshire*, p. 34.

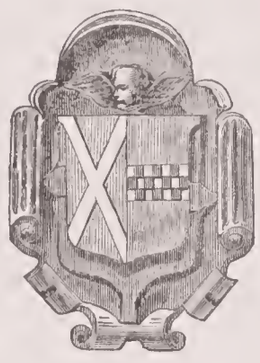
† The following entry appears in the Treasurer's Accounts, presented to the Town Council in 1611;—

"Item.—The xvii of August, to Patrick Maxwell, for grein silk fustean and uthir furnesing, furnist to the twa grein clathis to the counsall satis in the kirkis heich and laich, comforme to the warrand, xxxvij£. xis. xid."—*Memorabilia*, p. 75.

EAST SIDE

WEST SIDE

Now, from all we have been able to discover upon the subject (but much may still be said to rest on supposition), we are inclined to believe that the house in High Street which forms the subject of the plate before us, was erected, if not by himself, at least by some descendant who had a pride in remembering the source from which he sprung. The style and appearance of the building almost forbids us to suppose that it belongs to so distant a period as the beginning of the seventeenth century; it may, indeed, be of more modern date by at least a hundred years, but still there is to be seen, sculptured upon its front, that which seems to speak of the union of Patrick Maxwell with "Bessy Boyd." We allude to the time-worn Coat of Arms which is to be observed between the windows of the first and second floors, and in which the saltire, or St. Andrew's cross, of the Pollok family, is united per pale with the fesse chequy, argent and gules, of the Boyds.



Here there is, if not what may be called conclusive, at all events strong circumstantial evidence, to connect the house in question with the couple who rest side by side in the cathedral grounds, or some of their descendants. On various accounts we may perhaps believe it to have been built subsequent to their decease. In the first place, because it appears unlikely that it should have escaped the destructive fires of 1652 and 1677, which swept away, we are told, the greatest part of the houses in Saltmarket, Trongate, and lower part of High Street; and in the second, because M'Ure—in his list of what he calls the new buildings erected subsequent to the last-mentioned conflagration—enumerates "the great lodging of Mr. Patrick Maxwell," as being one of those which occupied the east side of High Street.* This individual was, no doubt, a descendant of the first of the name referred to, and it was he who in all probability erected the edifice in question—placing the shield of his ancestor upon its front to exhibit to the world that he could boast of, what in towns has ever been much regarded, a descent from County families of aristocratic standing.

From the manner in which his name is mentioned by M'Ure, we should suppose this Patrick Maxwell to have been a contemporary, otherwise, the precise "Clerk to the Registration of Seisins and other Evidents" would, doubtless, have spoken of him in the past tense. We know nothing farther, however, with regard to him; but assuming that the house referred to had been his residence, it may be inferred that he was a person who occupied a very respectable position among the citizens of Glasgow. The appearance of the building has been considerably altered in modern times, especially as regards the lower or street floor, in which the glaring windows of a

* It is very probable that the existing house was built on the site of one erected by Mr. Maxwell, the Deacon Convener, who died in 1623.

spirit-dealer's shop, and other novelties of the kind, have changed the character of the old exterior. Besides which, the proprietorship of the house has become so subdivided, that it is now a difficult matter to arrive at any authentic particulars of its early history. But even without the aid of any historical memoranda, this old edifice is not unworthy of a passing notice, as one of the most notable among the antiquated buildings which are still to be seen along the line of the High Street.

The first of the two extensive conflagrations recently alluded to, commenced on the afternoon of the 17th June, 1652, in a narrow lane situated upon the east side of the street, above the cross, and in the course of eighteen hours it laid in ruins a considerable part of the town. Like the great fire of London, it was one of those visitations which, however severely felt at the time, was, in the end, productive of no little good. Before this infliction, the houses in Glasgow were chiefly constructed of wood and plaster, and, as regarded the back closes, were so crowded together that, amid their calculations as to the value of every inch of ground in the neighbourhood of the principal streets, our ancestors would seem never to have taken into consideration the possibility of such a thing as fire ever attempting to get the upper hand amongst them. When this occurred, as was frequently the case, the consequences were very severe, yet many a lesson of experience had to be learned, before the inhabitants bethought them of introducing a style of building which might render them less liable than they had been, to the misfortune of being thrown upon the world bereft of "gudes and gear." The estimated loss on the occasion referred to was enormous for the period, amounting to a hundred thousand pounds sterling. It is rather interesting to find the plaint of the "towne of Glasgow in Scotland" calling forth, as it did under this serious calamity, an expression of commiseration, and words of incitement to public charity, on the part of Cromwell, Lambert, Desbrough, and others among the leading men of the great Rebellion.*

In several of the "closes" in the older parts of the city, particularly in those leading off the Gallowgate and the Saltmarket, may still be discovered many buildings belonging to the age when, despite of every warning, the habitations of the citizens were chiefly formed of timber. A considerable number of these must have risen upon the ruins of others destroyed in the two great fires of the seventeenth century, and, from their generally crowded position, they serve to show in how slight a degree considerations of a prudential nature had, in such matters, guided the steps of the worthy citizens of former days. These old houses nevertheless are highly interesting to the local antiquary, as the existing witnesses of a period in our history which has left many a noted memorial of its passage upon the dial-plate of time; and the veritable enthusiast in the lore of bygone days will, when resting his attention upon their

* See "a representation of the said condition, &c." of the people of Glasgow, drawn up in 1653, appendix to *Gibson's Glasgow*, p. 314.

successively projecting floors, have little difficulty in supplying a picture of the general condition of existence around them, when their possessors were accustomed to congregate in the one or the other, to listen, perhaps, to whispered reports of the doings at Bothwell Brig, or to doff their "blue bonnets" at the startling intelligence of the Second James's unhoped-for flight.

Although, when referring to this old mansion, it might be permitted us to descant a little upon the particular antiquities of the High Street, we fear that this would scarcely be warranted without extending these "Notices" to a degree beyond what was originally intended, and in a manner that the reader may probably find there has been quite enough of before he has managed to get to the end of the volume. But having another drawing in view, which demands its share of attention—we allude to that appearing on the same sheet with what, in the style of language adopted by the excavators of Pompeii, may be called "the house of the Maxwells"—we must still linger for a few moments in the "High-Kirk Street," as M'Ure styles it, although possessed of very little to say with regard to the second of the subjects upon which the artist has bestowed his attention.

The house referred to must be pretty well known to all who have a personal acquaintance with the older parts of the town. It is one of the few buildings remaining which serve to convey to the existing generation an idea of what was the general style of our street architecture at that period when, in the eyes of many an English visitor, Glasgow was regarded as the only place in Scotland which, in so far as her principal streets were concerned, could bear a comparison with the comfortable and cleanly towns of the south. Here, crowded at the present day with pails, tubs, churns, butter moulds, and such articles, there remains a lingering specimen of the arcades or piazzas which had once extended along the basement floors of almost all the buildings in the neighbourhood of the cross. In alluding to this locality, De Foe, writing about the year 1726, says "the houses are all of stone, and generally uniform in height as well as in front. The lower stories, for the most part, stand on vast square Doric columns, with arches, which open into the shops, adding to the strength, as well as beauty, of the building. In a word, 'tis one of the cleanliest, most beautiful, and best-built cities in Great Britain." Morer in 1689 describes the principal streets as "well paved [causewayed], and bounded with stately buildings, especially about the centre, where they are mostly new, with piazzas under them." On the east side of High Street, near the Cross, another vestige of these piazzas may be seen. It consists of but a single archway, within the retirement of which—as was the case with the "merchants" of other days—sits a dealer who, in appropriate keeping with the place, supplies the public, possibly on terms as good as may be had at more imposing establishments, with many a useful fabric of home production in linen and in wool. In various other quarters traces of the old arcades may be

seen; but in the majority of instances the archways have been walled up, and shops have been formed in them, with doors and windows on a line with the pavement.

It is easy to conceive what must have been the pleasant surprise of that man of misty hyperbole, Richard Francks, when, in the days of the commonwealth, he made his entry into Glasgow from the town of Kilmarnock, where he and his fellow traveller had been so "bravely refreshed." In the first place, he probably passed along the Bridgegate, struck with the handsome appearance of many a dwelling-house that told of successful industry, and of an advancement in social convenience and comfort scarcely to have been looked for so far to the north. Next would the lofty buildings of the Saltmarket solicit his admiration—the long rows of their arcades affording shelter from the sun or rain, and exhibiting in the background the open windows of many a little mart, piled with projecting rolls of cloth, ribbed, or checkered with blue and white, or showing in the homely colour of a lightish gray.—Here the tripping maiden, half concealed in one of the parti-coloured plaids which Ray alludes to,* would perhaps meet the inquisitive gaze of our rambling enthusiast, as she issued from some one or other of these little shops—in which, it may be, the produce of the "baxter's" art was ranged upon the shelves, or where cases of genuine Shiedam stood side by side with packages of French salt, crockery from Holland, prunes from Bordeaux, almonds, spices, and various other commodities. Elderly ladies, in a somewhat similar, but more sober dress, or women of the lower ranks in white short-gowns (Ray compares them to "napkins" hanging about their persons), might perhaps here and there be seen, issuing from the narrow closes, or standing bargaining with the shopkeepers in the arcades; while, as he approached the Cross—if his roving admiration permitted him to take any notice of the people around—he would probably meet in its vicinity with a considerable assembly of citizens, some clad in short cloaks and hats, passing to and fro upon the "crown of the causeway," others sauntering about, wearing the national bonnet, and cased in hodden grey. From that central spot his gaze rested, at all the four points of the compass, upon wide well-causewayed streets, handsome stone buildings, and other evidences of prosperity—enabling him with some show of reason to break out with the ejaculation:—"the very prospect of this flourishing city reminds me of the beautiful fabricks and the florid fields in England.—How many such cities shall we meet with where the streets and the channels are so cleanly swept, and the meat in every house so artificially dressed? * * * I'll superscribe it the non-such of Scotland, where an English florist may pick up a posie; so that should the residue of her cities, in our northern progress, seem as barren as uncultivated fields, and every field so replenished with thistles that a flower could scarcely flourish amongst them, yet would I celebrate thy praise, O Glasgow! because of those pleasant and fragrant flowers that so sweetly refreshed me, and to admiration sweetened our present entertainments."

* "*Account of Glasgow*," 1661.

THE "BELL OF THE BRAE."

THE Bell of the Brae—a term applied, in the Scottish language, to the highest part upon the slope of a hill *—was the spot situated at the intersection of the High Street with the lines of the Drygate and Rottenrow. Here, in the more distant periods of our local history, stood, it is believed, the Market Cross—that never-failing object, to be met with in the central locality of the most of our towns—while the desire for the constant exhibition of the outward symbols of their religion continued to be felt by the people in every corner of the land. † It is probable, indeed, that this spot continued to be known as the Cross, from the time when the town began to creep into existence, upon the foundation of the see in the early part of the twelfth century, down to the age of the grandson of Bruce, or to that of his successor, Robert the Third.

We cannot say at what period the old "Crux Foralis" was removed—if not in reality, at least in name—from the upper end of the High Street to its lower extremity, but this had evidently occurred prior to the year 1423, when James the First returned from his long captivity in England. In a document, for instance, dated 1419, mention is made of a building as situated "in Magno Vico," in the great street leading from the Cathedral to the Market Cross; ‡ and again, in 1426, another is referred to, as standing in the "great street" extending "a Cruce Fori" towards the chapels of St. Thomas, the martyr, and St. Tanew.§ Many similar allusions might be taken notice of, extending in succession down to the year 1549, and we have referred to some of them in the note below, but the above might, perhaps, be sufficient to show that the spot now called the Cross had been known as such at an ealier period than many have supposed. ‖

Going back, however, into the thirteenth or fourteenth centuries, we have the Bell of the Brae in all the importance, whatever that may have been, which belonged

* See *Jamieson's Scottish Dictionary*, who mentions that, in the Cambro-British, *Bul* signifies a prominence, or that which juts out.

† Was it the more ancient Cross of the city, and that which had stood, previous to the Reformation, at the Bell of the Brae, that is referred to in the *Burgh Records*—in which, *sub anno*, 1575, "James Raukene" is found guilty of removing "ane greit croce," lying in the Rottenrow, and the property of the town.—Vide *Burgh Records*, (Maitland Club) p. 43.

‡ Appendix to "*Book of our Lady College*," &c. p. 240.

§ Now the Trongate.—*Ibid.* p. 244.

‖ We find, amongst a variety of others, the following referred to, namely:—Streets leading—from the Cross to the South Port—(in one instance this gate is termed "Communis Porta, lie Nedder Barras Yett;" also, "Porta Inferior")—from the Cross to the West Port—and from the Cross to the East Port. During the 15th and 16th centuries, the place where the four streets meet at the top of the High Street, seems to have been termed "Quadrivium," in contradistinction to the site of the "Crux Foralis." Public markets would appear to have been held at the top of the High Street down to the reign of James VI.—(Vide *Ante*, p. 20, note.)—M'Ure mentions "the four streets near the Castle, downward to the College," as being the places chiefly resorted to in his day, during the fair of St. Mungo.—(P. 6.)

to it as the recognised centre of the city. Here, in those ages, were congregated, we may conjecture, the various booths and stands from which the inhabitants were supplied with the common necessaries of life;* and, at this spot, probably, the entire traffic of the burgh was anciently carried on. On the Thursdays in particular, this must have been the scene of no inconsiderable bustle—crowded, as it no doubt often was, with the country people from the neighbourhood, mingled with their little horses, cattle, and panniers, and perhaps, a few primitive carts.† A veritable picture of a market assemblage, such as it may have been at the Cross of Glasgow five or six hundred years ago, is one that would certainly prove of no little interest in the city of Saint Mungo. Enough is known of the habits, dress, commodities, and mode of living of the Scotch during the reigns of James the First and his immediate predecessors to supply the outline of the scene, while a slight exertion of the imagination, based upon a due acquaintance with our ancient chroniclers, would be sufficient, perhaps, to furnish the more particular details.

From the information conveyed by Froissart, Æneas Sylvius,‡ afterwards Pope Pius II., and some other writers, we are possessed of many curious particulars with regard to the people of Scotland during the period which elapsed—in speaking of matters of local interest—between the episcopate of William Rae and that of his ambitious successor, Bishop Cameron. Both, however, coming from countries in which the highest then-known civilization was to be met with, have taken, it may be presumed, a rather contemptuous view of the state of affairs in our northern realm—or, more properly speaking, they seem to have encountered so much of a barbarous character in the agrarian districts, that the slight progress of superior advancement which had made itself visible in the cathedral towns, was to them, apparently, a redeeming feature totally unknown.

According to Froissart, the houses of the peasantry throughout the country were, in the reign of Robert the Second, mere huts, composed of turf, and roofed with the branches of trees; the inhabitants being, at the same time, indebted to the Dutch for such common articles as horseshoes, and every description of ordinary harness. Æneas Sylvius tells us, on his part, that this was a cold country, bearing but few

* By charter from William the Lyon, a weekly market was instituted at Glasgow to be held on Thursday, "Dici Jouis," as the original has it.—Vide "*Registrum*," &c., p. 36.

† From an old English poem entitled "The Bibel of English Policy," supposed to date from the age of Henry IV., and quoted by Pinkerton, (Hist. vol. 1, p. 407,) we find mentioned among the imports of Scotland from Flanders,

"——— grete plente of haberdashe ware.
And with cart wheles bare,
And barowes are laden in substaunce;
Thus must rude ware ben her chevesance."

‡ One of the Piccolomini family—he visited Scotland in the reign of James I. His notes as to the condition of the country are highly curious, they were published at Frankfort in 1614, under the title of "*Pii II. Commentarii Rerum Memorabilem sui Temporis.*"——Froissart was in this country somewhere about the year 1360.

descriptions of grain, very destitute of trees, but—his ideas seeming to have run strongly upon the matter of fuel—possessed of a peculiar stone, which served to supply their place; pieces of which were distributed in alms at the church doors. The towns, he says, were unwalled, and the houses in general built without lime. He mentions, likewise, that amongst the lower ranks butcher-meat and fish were abundant, but that bread was regarded as a luxury; and that from Scotland were exported to Flanders, hides, wool, salt fish, and pearls.*

It is probable, however, that to any one desirous of forming a just idea of some of the features which may have distinguished a gathering of the people at the market Cross of Glasgow in the times we refer to, the well-known poems of James the First, entitled "Christis Kirk of the Grene," and "Peblis to the Play," will afford, a few occasional hints not to be lightly valued. For a lengthened period, both before and after his accession to the throne, the progress of change in the manners and customs of the people was exceedingly slow; and whatever the monarch brings forward as characteristic of a rural merry-making during his own reign, will, most probably, serve indirectly to exhibit many of the peculiar features in external appearance, which had marked the accustomed meetings of the people at their places of weekly traffic for a long period previous to his age.

From these productions of the Royal poet, and other sources, it appears, that in public, the women of the ordinary ranks were arrayed in hoods or kerchiefs, tippets, and the kirtle or close fitting gown;† while the members of the male sex mingled in every throng—wearing woollen bonnets, or hats of basket-work made from the twigs of the birch, with doublets or cloaks, and a kind of short trousers, below which the legs and feet were suffered to remain bare. Mention is made of the "cadger," who carried fish throughout the country on his little horse; of a tavern with clean table linen and a regular "score" upon the wall; with various other particulars of much interest to those who may desire to become acquainted with the old manners and customs of the country.

We wander, however, from the subject properly before us—the ancient market-place of the Cathedral City, the Bell of the Brae. But, after all, what is to be said of a spot, regarding which no one has ever thought proper to put pen to paper? unless it be allowable to go off at a tangent to look for a subject among, what painters would term, the borrowed lights. Much, no doubt, has that locality beheld of no mean interest in its day; but who can now attempt to do more than build

* We refer the reader to *Pinkerton's History*, for additional information on the general condition of Scotland during the reign of the Stuart line.

† Never, says the verse, was there such a show of suitors as at Christ's Kirk on that day, when—

"Thair came our kitties (lasses) weshen clene,
In thair new kirtillis of grey."

upon an imaginative foundation, if he would invest it with the possession of a claim to any particular notice?—In former times, many of the prebendaries' houses stood in near proximity to the Bell of the Brae, and one of them, at least, looked down upon it from the east side of the High Street. As to the other buildings which for centuries lined the thoroughfares of the town, we may believe them to have been, in general, mere cottages, thatched with heath or straw, and rarely pretending to anything like external respectability. During the sixteenth century, it is probable that houses formed of wood and plaster began to be not uncommon, and in many respects, to give an improved appearance to the streets. From the specimens of such as still remain in the narrow closes of the Saltmarket or Gallowgate, we can form but a poor opinion of what seems to have been the really pleasing effect produced by the quaint-looking style of architecture introduced from the union of these materials. But when we call to view the picture of some broad and airy thoroughfare, bounded on either side by a perspective line of these old-fashioned structures, with their projecting floors, and odd, irregular casements, the scene presents itself to "fancy's eye" with somewhat of an engaging aspect, and from the force, we shall suppose, of preconceived ideas, seems to unite itself in a peculiar manner with the tastes, habits, and even feelings of the age to which this peculiar style of building had belonged—the daily life, in short, of the men who had discovered that it was possible to roof in their houses to rather wider an extent than it had been in their power to lay off the foundations.

With regard to the houses represented in the plate—of which those shown in the lower division formed a continuation of the others, extending down the west side of the High Street—it may be stated that many years have elapsed since they were all demolished, to give place to the plain, honest, patriotic-looking buildings, as Cobbett would have styled them, which now elevate their unpretending, business-like succession of "stories" at the Bell of the Brae. The spot where they stood, has, within the last fifty or sixty years, been brought by frequent cuttings to a greatly reduced level,* so that the former crowning point of the height no longer "bears the bell," but must yield to the now superior elevation of a part of the Rottenrow. It is difficult to say what may have been the actual age of these old houses, and, as all have vanished without leaving a trace behind, it might seem a waste of time to begin balancing the question as to whether they had been raised two or four centuries ago. We are inclined, however, to consider them as having been erected in comparatively modern times—over the ashes perhaps of some of the wooden structures previously mentioned—and, when the disappearance of that class of buildings is alluded to, it certainly may be done, as old annalists lead us to believe, coupled in general with the idea of a sudden extinction in flame and smoke.

* The first improvement seems to have occurred in 1783, when the Bell of the Brae was lowered four feet.—*Cleland's Annals*, I., 333.

COLLEGE CHURCH. FRONT VIEW

COLLEGE CHURCH. BACK VIEW

OLD HOUSE IN N°15 HIGH STREET, 1846.
OPPOSITE COLLEGE CHURCH

OLD CHURCH IN IRKLE FACTORY LANE.
TAKEN DOWN IN 1845.

THE BLACKFRIARS', OR COLLEGE CHURCH;

BACK HOUSE IN HIGH STREET, &c.

ALTHOUGH a building of no great antiquity, and one to which but little interest is attached, the mention of the Blackfriars' Church will naturally suggest a reference to times, with which the edifice has, in itself, no actual connexion, but which have, nevertheless, left behind them many associations, calculated, in an antiquarian point of view, to bestow an interest both upon the existing church and on the locality around it. We allude, of course, to those periods in our domestic annals when the Friars Preachers had their establishment in Glasgow, and in which a much older structure than the present presented its front to the High Street, under the name of the "Black Freyr Kyrk."

The order of Saint Dominic—a brotherhood of mendicant preachers, which was first formally sanctioned by the Apostolic See in 1216—is believed to have obtained a footing in Scotland about the year 1233; and within twenty years from that date—that is, prior to the death of Alexander the Second, or at an early period in the reign of his successor—to have had a monastery established in this city. Styled, from the colour of their habits, Black Friars,* the members of this fraternity met, soon after its foundation, with a wide-spread popularity, in consequence—to borrow from the learned and interesting preface to the "Book of our Lady College"—of their order appealing to the favour of the multitude, "not less by its zeal, learning, and devotion, and its stern self-denial in renouncing all worldly possessions—trusting wholly for support to the voluntary alms of the faithful—than by the vehemence with which its members inveighed against the clergy of the church, and all other religious societies, by the confidence with which they boasted themselves the only ministers who proclaimed 'the gospel;' and, by the enthusiastic eloquence and flattering doctrine of their sermons, which, delivered in the fields, and on the streets, and by the waysides, were filled by such devices as never fail, in any age, to gain the many."

For about seventy or eighty years after their introduction into Glasgow the Friars Preachers seem to have honestly adhered to that fundamental rule of the order which enjoined the burthen of voluntary poverty; but, subsequent to the beginning of the fourteenth century, they appear to have become as desirous as the rest of mankind to be made possessors of whatever worldly riches the chances of fortune might cast in their way; and thus—by means of numerous grants from the crown, the nobility, and others—they became at last so very comfortably situated with regard to the means of easy enjoyment, and the pleasures of a life of inaction, as to call forth

* This may refer to after times. In 1219 they adopted, it is said, a white dress, similar to that of the Carthusians, but at a later period they were undoubtedly habited in black.

from George Buchanan the satirical remark, that it was difficult to say whether they should have been styled "Fratres Mendicantes, or Manducantes,"—brothers mendicants, or gluttons.*

Such were the men who, centuries ago, might be seen perambulating our streets, clad in black gowns of woollen cloth, their heads sometimes ensconced in the appertaining cowl or hood, or at others, uncovered, and displaying the shaven crown—their feet bare, and their waists girdled with a piece of cord, whence hung the ever-present rosary; the use of which is said to have been first introduced by the founder of their order—Saint Dominic himself. They did not, we believe, openly solicit, but were ever prepared to receive alms; in return for which—if not at times with a view to additional gleanings—they were always ready to give their attendance at the bed-sides of the sick and the dying. In many instances their ministrations may have doubtless been grateful to the afflicted, and on that account they were not, perhaps, to be altogether regarded as mere drones of the hive.

It is probable that the monastery which they originally possessed in Glasgow was situated not far from what latterly became known as the Greyfriars' Wynd.† At an after period, however, the Dominicans appear to have erected cloisters adjoining to their church—which stood from an early date where now stands the structure represented in the plate—and to have eventually abandoned their old quarters for those which, at the period of the Reformation, were situated "in magno vico tendente ab Ecclesia Metropolitana vsque ad Crucem Foralem"—in the great street leading from the Metropolitan Church to the Market Cross.

As may be supposed, the publication of the Charters of the Friars' Preachers of Glasgow has thrown much new and curious light upon their history, as well as on the annals of their conventual buildings and church. It would, probably, prove tedious to the reader, were we to dwell at any length upon the contents of these documents; but a brief glance at some portion of their contents may not prove uninteresting.

With regard to the members of the order established in this locality, it may, for instance, not be thought unworthy of remark that, in 1252, letters patent had been issued in the name of Alexander the Third—then a boy of eleven or twelve years of

* See "*Book of our Lady College*," preface, p. xliii.

† *Ibid.* p. xl. We venture the question without having had leisure to make any particular inquiry into the subject—but can it be, that, notwithstanding what has been generally supposed, the order of St. Francis never had an establishment here, but that for some length of time, and after adopting the white or grey habit in 1219, the brotherhood of St. Dominic had been popularly styled the Grey Friars? Should such have been the case, it is easy to suppose that the first monastery which they possessed in this city had stood near the site of the present Shuttle Street, and that it was this building M'Ure refers to, as "the convent of the Greyfriars," the garden of which, he says, had extended over a place called "Craignaught,"—(*Vide* Edit. 1830, p. 57, and note,)—a mass of rock, since removed, and which was situated about the spot where College Street now terminates on the west. At what period the black dress was assumed, we cannot at present say, but the term Blackfriars is not, we think, to be found applied to the Dominicans of Glasgow, at any very remote date. The Grey Friars which Cleland refers to, were none other than the Dominicans. (*Vide* Enum., &c., p. 164).

age—to the bailies of Dumbarton, ("prepositis suis de Dunbretan,")—"commanding them to pay the sum of ten pounds yearly, from the rents of that burgh to the Friars' Preachers of Glasgow, in lieu of the King's obligation to find them in food for one day in every week." * From another document, it would appear that, amid all the strife and turmoil of a subsequent age, this mendicant brotherhood had succeeded in maintaining a tolerably comfortable position; as, in the year 1301 their convent was discovered to afford the most suitable quarters which could probably be found for the accommodation of Edward the First when he visited this city—during what then seemed to be his successful progress towards the final subjugation of Scotland. † At a period somewhat later, the order seems to have found a valuable patron in King Robert Bruce, who, in 1315—the year after the Battle of Bannockburn—bestowed on their monastery at Glasgow the annual sum of twenty merks, payable from his rents at Cadyow, near Hamilton. David the Second was likewise a benefactor of no mean account, as was his immediate successor, the first of the Stewarts.

Of the actual position of the buildings which they originally occupied in Glasgow, we have, in the documents referred to, no very distinct information; but it would appear, as previously mentioned, that these had been situated in the neighbourhood of what is now called Shuttle Street. This seems more than probable, from the fact, in connexion with other circumstances, that in 1304, "Robert Wischard," Bishop of Glasgow, had granted to the Friars Preachers, a spring termed "The Meadow Well," with the right of conducting it into their cloister from its source in the Deanside. ‡ Every native of the city may possibly have heard of such things as the Meadow Well § and the Deanside Brae; but there may be many a one who, in this age of progress, would find himself at a loss for a reply if called upon to say in what particular part of the city they are to be found; hence it may not be thought entirely supererogatory should it be mentioned that the waters of the first have, at the present day, an outlet on the south side of George Street, near the corner of Bunn's Wynd, and that the second forms the southern slope which descends from the Rottenrow to the eastward of Portland Street.

The period of the supposed removal of the establishment of the Friars Preachers from one locality to the other, cannot apparently, be ascertained; but, it would seem, that, by the time of James the First, the buildings which they occupied had been situated in the High Street. From the beginning of the fifteenth century, the donations made to the brotherhood, may be said to have received a considerable

* See "*Book of our Lady College,*" prefaee, p. xl.

† *Ibid.*, p. xli.—We also learn that the hospitality of the Friars Preachers of Glasgow was requited with the payment of six shillings, (vj. solidi.)

‡ *Ibid.*, p. xliii.

§ Now generally known as the Deanside Well.

increase. The following are, perhaps, the most deserving of notice, on account of the curious particulars they record.

In 1419, John Stewart, Lord of Darnley,* granted to the convent, by a charter dated at Inchinnan, an annual pension of two bolls of meal, from the mill of "Dernele," and two bolls of wheat, with two of barley, from the "maynis" of "Crukistoune." In 1333, his son and successor, Sir Allan Stewart, bestowed on the Friars Preachers of Glasgow a perpetual annuity of twenty shillings Scots from the lands of Cathcart, in satisfaction, it would appear, of the sum of a hundred crowns of gold lent to his father from the common purse of the convent.—In 1434, the Prior, Friar Oswald, in consideration of a rood of ground on the east side of the High Street, conveyed to the convent by John Flemying of Cowglen, undertook on the part of himself and his brethren, to pay ten shillings yearly, and to find stabling for two horses, on all occasions when the said John Flemyng should think proper "tyll cum tyll do hys erandis or mak residens within the town;" and, moreover, the Prior likewise became bound, should the said individual ever desire to take up his abode in the city, to build for his accommodation "an honest hall chamir and butler with a yard for to set cale in," etc.†—In 1454, "Johne Stewart, the first provest that was in the cite of Glasgw" granted to the Prior and convent, a house on the west side of the "Walcargat,"‡ a rig of land in the palyhard croft, (near St. Thanew's chapel) and ten shillings of annual income secured upon a house in the High Street—("the Kyngis streyte at strekis fra the Cathedrale Kyrke of Glasgu wn tyll the Mercat Cors of the samyn,"—on condition that upon every Friday of the year, "eftir at the covent messe be done," they should perform at St. Katherine's alter, a mass for his own soul, the souls of his ancestors and those of all Christians; and that annually, on the anniversary of his decease, they should cause St. Mungo's bell to be rung through the town, "Placebo and Dirige" to be chanted in the choir, and a mass to be sung at Saint Katherine's alter, by the whole convent, every Friar receiving "sex penyis and a galown of the best sale ale of the town to the conventis collaciown"; and that finally they should grant him the right of sepulture in their church, in a vault to be built by him at the north end of the altar of Saint Katherine.§—In 1478 the Prior, with consent of the convent, conveyed a plot of the adjacent ground to Master Robert Forrester, on condition that, in the house which he was then building, he should construct a gate and passage to the Friar's church, with a niche or window above the

* In 1419, John Stewart of Darnley accompanied the Earls of Douglas and Buchan with their army of 7000 Scots to France, and it was probably, as remarked in the volume before us, when on the eve of his departure that he bestowed the above gifts on the Friars of Glasgow. He acquired high distinction in the French wars, and was killed in battle near Orleans in 1429.

† Vide "*Book of our Lady College*," preface, p. xliv., xlvii.

‡ Now the Saltmarket; the word *Walcar*, or Walker, signified a fuller of cloth. In Latin instruments this street is styled "Via Fullonum."

§ Preface, p. li.

entrance, for the reception of an image of the Beloved Virgin.—In various documents, houses are referred to as situated in "the Black Friar's Wynd or South Vennel of the brethren," which serves to show that the buildings of their monastery were situated to the north of the present Blackfriars' Street, formerly known as the Blackfriars' Wynd. As our limits, however, are somewhat circumscribed, we shall not for the present detain the reader with any additional extracts, although the field from which we borrow is sufficiently ample.

The Church of the Blackfriars, referred to by M'Ure, as having been "the most ancient building of Gothick kind of work that could be seen in the whole kingdom"—was erected about the middle of the thirteenth century; as among the charters of the order there exists a Bull of Innocent IV., dated at Lyons in 1246, and remitting a certain amount of penance to all the faithful who should contribute to the completion of the church, and other edifices, which the Friars Preachers of Glasgow had begun to build;* consequently, the king's architect, Mr. Miln, was somewhat mistaken, when in 1638, he declared that this structure was, for antiquity, without its parallel in Scotland, and that the Cathedral was, in comparison, but a thing of yesterday.† It appears to have been built in a plain Gothic style, and to have had a spire at its western extremity. In one of Slezer's plates, there is, what seems intended for a representation of this church—a work of art which impresses the mind with no very exalted opinion of its appearance; but the drawing is executed in an inferior manner, and gives, perhaps, a very incorrect idea of the original. We are not aware that any other attempt at a view of the building, is now in existence.‡

With the progress of reforming opinions, the fortunes of the Friars Preachers experienced a rapid decline, and, amid various other indications of a coming change, there was a note of warning sounded, when, in 1553, the civil court determined against the plea that the precincts of their convent should be recognised as a place of sanctuary. Some years later, and when the curtain was about to fall for ever upon a far from immaculate stage, the prior, Andrew Leitch, made an effort to save some of the conventual property from the general wreck which menaced the religious houses, by executing a deed, conveying to a burgess of the city the garden grounds by which the monastery was surrounded, but this deed was a few years afterwards formally set aside. In 1566, by royal charter, dated at Edinburgh, the Friars' "place," with its endowments, and all other ecclesiastical revenues within the city, were bestowed by Queen Mary—it may be believed, with no great good-will—upon the provost, bailies, council, and community, for the support of the ministers of the

* *Ibid.* p. xxxix.

† See M'Ure, Edit. 1830, p. 50—Dr. Cleland states that it had been built "about" the year 840!—See his "*Enumeration, &c.,*" 1823, p. 165.

‡ According to tradition, a Druid grove and temple had anciently existed near the spot where it stood.—*M'Ure*, p. 3.

gospel, and for the erection of an hospital for the poor and infirm of Glasgow. In the year 1572-3, the greater portion of the rights thus acquired by the municipality were transferred to the College, but, in consequence of the legality of Friar Leitch's attempted alienation of a part of the property, being, at that period, a question still undecided, it was some years later before the principal and professors were put into possession of the entire grant*.

We learn from the judgment of court against the validity of the deed mentioned, that the destruction of the Blackfriars' Monastery had been effected in the summer of 1560; when, according to the original, "the hail Places of Freiris within this realme wes demolischit and cassin downe and the conventis (brethren) quhilkis maid residence within the samin wer dispersit." In 1578–9, the property transferred to the College is described as "the Great Yaird sumtyme pertening to the Freiris Predicatouris of Glasgw, with the small yairdis adiacent thairto as the West Freir Yarde, the Colhowse, and Closter Knot, the Paradyce Yairdis† uver and neather, with the remanent small yardis adiacent thairto." ‡

The Church of the Blackfriars, after surviving for rather more than a hundred years the destruction of the adjacent cloisters, was, unfortunately, on the morning of the 29th October, 1670, § struck by lightning, which, according to Law, "rent the steeple of the said Church from top to bottom, and tirred the sclattes off it, and brake down the gavills in the two ends of it and fyred it, but was quenched afterwards by men;" leaving it, in short, a perfect ruin, in which condition it seems to have been allowed to remain for a number of years, no longer, of course, in a fit state to be occupied as a place of worship. That it had previously been made use of as a Presbyterian Kirk is manifest from various entries met with in the records of the town. Some few of these are taken notice of below; but many others could be added did our limits permit. ‖

* "*Book of our Lady College, &c.*" Pref. p. lxv.

† Gardens.—*Ibid.* p. lxvii.

‡ In 1635, the Church was re-transferred by the College to the town, as it was then found to require a greater amount of repair than the former could afford to be at the expense of. These repairs the civic authorities undertook to effect; and as they had been so liberal as to pay the College the sum of 2000 merks to aid in the erection of the University buildings, the transfer of the Church was regarded as not more than was proper under the circumstances.—*Ibid.* p. lxix., Note.

§ *Law's Memorials*, p. 33.

‖ Cleland states that, in 1622, the Blackfriars' Church was repaired, and opened as a Presbyterian place of worship.—*Enumeration*, &c., 1823, p. 175. We find, however, that it had been put in a state of repair so early as 1588, and that this was renewed in 1605. In 1587, the Session appointed sermons to be preached daily in the "Colledge Kirk," as it had begun to be styled.—Vide *Book of our Lady College*, preface, p. lxvii., &c.

In 1643, "Georg Duncane of Borrowfield," gave six hundred merks for the purchase of a bell for the Blackfriars' Church.—*Memorabilia*, p. 124.

In the same year, the "lait bailleis.....requestit that ane or twa of the windows, on the south syd of the Black Frier Kirk, nerest the east gavell, the staines therein may be taken downe, and build agane with glas, so far as the moneys will dae with diligence.—*Ibid.* p. 128.

In 1670, March 12—It is ordered that the bell in the Blackfriars' Steeple should be taken down and be sent to Holland to be re-cast. This appears to have been accomplished by the 1st October of the same year, under which date the city Treasurer takes credit for the sum of £232—"for transporting and home bringing the Blackfrier Kirk bell, and casting thereof in Holland." —*Ibid.* pp. 285, 292.—Within a month, therefore, after the new bell had arrived, was heard that terrible "thunderclap" which laid the church in ruins. These extracts show that M'Ure is wrong in placing the date of its destruction in 1668.

Nearly thirty years had elapsed after the sudden destruction of the Blackfriars' Church, before any decided steps were taken to provide another building calculated to supply its place. The aspect of affairs, in general, was probably far from propitious, during the interval, towards the building of "Kirks"; but, as the days of persecution passed, and the star of the Revolution ascended in the political firmament, to dispel from among the citizens of Glasgow "the winter of their discontent," things began to assume a different appearance, and, amid other evidences of increased activity on the part of the authorities, it was, in the course of a few years, resolved upon, that a new place of worship should be raised, where the ancient fane of the Friars Preachers had so long exhibited its crumbling walls.

The foundation stone of the new edifice—the one represented in the plate—was laid on the 19th June, 1699, and the church was opened for public worship on Sunday, the 18th January, 1702.* Nothing particular can be said of this building, which has little to recommend it, either in an architectural or antiquarian point of view; but it may here be worthy of observation, that, when the accounts were closed, in November 1701, it was found that the cost of its erection amounted to £21308 : 3*s.* 8*d.* Scots, or about £1800 sterling †—a large sum, it must be allowed, for the era of William the Third. It stands, as is well-known, on a slight ascent, in near proximity to the College, at the distance of about 250 feet from the line of the High Street, and is environed by a burial ground, which, towards the east, is bounded by the College Gardens. From the day when it was first opened, down to the present period, nothing of any moment seems to have occurred in connexion with its history. Week by week, month by month, and year by year, as time rolled on, has many a successive generation assembled within its walls—in youth or age, observant followers of that, in Scotland, early imprinted duty, which calls forth her people to the house of prayer "from hamlet and from hall" when the day of weekly rest has arrived, and when the

> "Solemn knell, from yonder ancient pile,
> Fills all the air, inspiring joyful awe."

On the same sheet with the two views of the Blackfriars' Chuch, we have the sketch of an old house, situated within a court, upon the opposite side of the High Street. This is a building of no great age—dating most probably from about the period of the Union, or somewhat later. From its appearance, we should be led to infer that it had been built much about the same time with the front range of the

* *Cleland, Stat. Tables*, 1823, p. 185. † *Memorabilia*, p. 406.

Duke's Lodgings in the Drygate. The ground floor is said to be arched in a very substantial manner; and we have been informed that the house was at one period occupied as an Inn—the favourite resort perhaps of many a country laird and substantial citizen, in those days when rum punch had not yet supplanted claret, and when wigs and cocked hats commanded the diurnal veneration of "mine host." We can say nothing as to the particulars of its history; but it may well be believed—if ever there was a time when the promise of abundant cheer swung like a signal of welcome over its opened portal—that this now forgotten edifice has, like many a compeer, had its day of public notoriety and fame—although now all, with it, is "fortune faithless and a record blank."

The dark-looking structure represented by the side of the above, is the plain old Meeting-House which stood till within a few years past in what was the narrow passage leading from North Albion Street, called Inkle Factory Lane—a thoroughfare which has now merged into the continuation of College Street. This was the first chapel in Glasgow occupied by a congregation in connexion with the Associate Presbytery, afterwards the Secession Synod. It was erected in 1741–42,* and was opened for public worship under the ministrations of the Rev. James Fisher, one of the leaders in the movement of separation. The Secession Church had its rise, it may be observed, in 1733, when Ebenezer Erskine and some other divines felt themselves called upon to withdraw from the Church of Scotland, on a disputed question, regarding the election of clergymen to vacant parishes. The early Seceders of Glasgow had their first place of meeting at Crosshill, near Cathcart; but subsequently, and until the chapel in Inkle Factory Lane was built, they assembled on a vacant piece of ground on the north side of the Rottenrow, on which a tent was erected.† The congregation continued to meet in the old chapel till the year 1821, when the handsome edifice in North Albion Street was completed, in which it now assembles, under the ministrations of the Rev. Dr. King.

After the building was abandoned as a Secession Church, it was for some time, we believe, occupied by the religious sect styled Irvinites. Its demolition occurred about two years ago.

* *Cleland's Statistics*, 1832, p. 73. † *Pagan's History of Glasgow*, p. 186.

THE OLD SARACEN'S HEAD INN, NORTH SIDE OF GALLOWGATE, 1845

Drawn and Lithographed by

Allan & Ferguson, 81 Argyll Street

OLD HOUSES ON NORTH SIDE OF GALLOWGATE, NEAR SPOUTMOUTH, 1845

THE OLD SARACEN'S HEAD INN.

TO the reposing traveller who, at the present day, looks forth from amid the comforts of his quiet and well-ordered hotel, upon the sylvan area of George Square, it may afford matter of surprise to be told, that in the handsome city of Glasgow, which commanded, as already mentioned, the praise of so many visitants, there existed upwards of a century ago nothing which, in the modern sense of the word, could be properly called an Inn. Of taverns and ale-houses there does not appear to have been any deficiency; but of establishments intended for the accommodation of strangers there were, apparently, none to be met with superior to those kept by the class of men called "Stablers," whose projecting signboards so generally gave promise of good entertainment for "man and beast." The capital itself was, indeed, at the period referred to, in no degree better supplied—showing how long the people of Scotland had remained behind their southern neighbours in all that related to personal comfort and the general amenities of life.

To remedy this state of affairs, the Magistrates and Council resolved, in the year 1754, to encourage the design of Robert Tennent gardener and vintner in Glasgow, of erecting an hôtel that might be creditable to the city; and in the following year he completed the building which is represented in the plate, and which is described in a document of the period, as a "Great Inn, all of good hewn stone."

The piece of ground feued to Tennent by the authorities, for the erection of the edifice, was situated immediately without the site of the Gallowgate Port—one of the ancient entrances to the city, taken down in 1749—and appertained to the community as having been the churchyard attached in former days to a Roman Catholic chapel, known as "Little Saint Mungo's."—How many of those who had indulged themselves, in the gayer moments of life, within the walls of the once famous "Saracen's Head," had ever known that its foundations rested among the bones of departed generations? How many of those who now hurry along its crowded neighbourhood, are aware that the imposing ceremonies of mass and requiem had once been engaged in there?—This chapel was built in the year 1500, by David Cunningham, Archdeacon of Argyll, and Official of Glasgow, as may be learned from the Chartulary of the See, printed for the Maitland Club.* It is there referred to as standing beyond the walls of the city, near to the trees called the trees of Saint Kentigern; and the same document gives particulars of the various lands and tenements which were set apart by its founder for the endowment of this place of worship.

The ancient chapel having been long numbered among the things that were—and no pictorial record of its appearance having been preserved—it might be expected

* Vol. ii. p. 501.—See, likewise, the preface to the *Book of our Lady College*, &c.

that we should now abandon any farther reference towards it, and at once return to its existing successor, the former "Saracen's Head;" there are one or two particulars, however, with regard to the original building and locality where it stood, on which it may be permitted us briefly to dwell.—From what has been already stated, it may be inferred that, in the time of King James the Fourth, the external vicinity of the Gallowgate Port was a very rural spot, and that, from the circumstance of the trees which waved over it having been dedicated to Saint Kentigern, there must have existed some traditionary connection between that particular locality in the vicinity of the Molendinar rivulet, and the history of the early apostle of christianity to the people of Strathclyde. The erection there of a chapel bearing his name was owing, no doubt, to a current belief in the sanctity of the place; and, that it had, in reality, been hallowed from a remote antiquity, by many associations of a reverential character, is now abundantly certain, owing to the considerable access of light which has of recent years been thrown upon the annals of our See.

From the "Offices" of Kentigern, a formulary of devotion, compiled by Bishop Elphingston for the use of his church at Aberdeen, we learn that the Saint, while residing as an exile in Wales, was directed by angelic agency to proceed to Glasgow, and that on his approach, in obedience to the mandate, towards the place, he was met by Redrath the King, who, accompanied by his chiefs and a great multitude of people, had gone forth to welcome his return. On this, the narrative continues, the venerable traveller began to address the people in his character of an apostle of the truth; but, owing to the numbers present, and the great pressure of the crowd, it happened that he could neither be properly seen nor heard, when, of a sudden, the ground on which he stood was miraculously elevated into a little knoll or hillock, so that all were eventually able to behold the speaker, and to listen to his words. In commemoration, it is stated, of this occurrence, a chapel dedicated to him was at an after period erected on the spot.

The reader must form his own opinion with regard to the value of the story as a contribution to our historical lore, but we may, perhaps, be allowed to point his attention to the curious degree of traditionary interest with which it invests the immediate site and neighbourhood of the old Saracen's Head Inn. In the first place, it would appear—if the conjectures on the subject be correct—that the little eminence so wondrously upraised has never been required to return to its original level, but may be observed at the present day in the ascent of the Dowhill. It was on the slope of this inconsiderable rising ground, which is situated in close proximity to the site of the Gallowgate Port, that the chapel erected by Archdeacon Cunningham actually stood. This religious edifice may very probably have been raised on the spot occupied in earlier times by the building mentioned in the "Offices" of Kentigern, and the adjacent ground—first secularly trenched upon to receive the founda-

tions of the building shown in the plate, may, at different periods of time, have been set apart for the burial of the dead. Altogether, from the preceding account of his return to Glasgow, coupled with the various circumstances which connect the name of Saint Kentigern with the locality of the Dowhill, it seems by no means unlikely that he had, on some great occasion, thought proper to address his audience from that little height, although the story of its miraculous elevation may be ascribed to the fancy of an inventive monkish zeal.

In addition to what has been said, it may be mentioned that, in the *Book of our Lady College*, already referred to, we find reference made to a spring of water situated in the above neighbourhood, and called Saint Kentigern's Well. In connexion with this, it is worthy of remark, that the court-yard of the Saracen's Head Inn possessed a spring-well unequalled, perhaps, in the city, for the purity and abundance of its supply; and, so highly was it prized, that in the title deeds of many of the neighbouring proprietors, the privilege of drawing water from this source is expressly guaranteed.

Although the Chapel of Saint Mungo was probably much injured during the storms of the Reformation, and its churchyard abandoned as a place of sepulture, it does not appear to have fallen into absolute ruin till long afterwards, as we find by the Session Records that in the year 1593 it had been put into a state of repair, and was made use of as an hospital for the reception of invalids. We again hear of it under the date of 1600, as "St. Mungo's Kirk on the north side of the Gallowgate," from which period all traces of its history seem to be lost, although the adjoining churchyard is more than once referred to in subsequent times—as, for instance, in 1647, when, by order of the Town Council, a "dyke" is directed to be built at "Litle St Mungoes Kirk yaird, neir the Gallowgait Port, and the Port thair to be calsiet."* This churchyard was, as has been before observed, in existence when the ground was feued for the erection of the Inn; but as, in the description of the property thus transferred, no mention is made of the chapel itself, we may infer that the last traces of its walls had disappeared prior to the year 1754.†

It cannot but be interesting to reflect on the appearance of this ancient burial-place in its latter days.—Fixed in solitary desolation among the dwellings of an increasing community, it lay a stranger, as it were, to the place, and to the associations of the people; and, although the respect for the depositories of the dead which prevails in Scotland had long preserved it from the hands of desecration, there could, at the period we mention, no longer have existed among the citizens any of those feelings with

* *Memorabilia*, p. 153.

† The following is the phraseology employed in the conveyance of the property from the Magistrates to Tennent, *anno* 1754,—"That old yeard or burying-place, called Little St. Mungo's, lying immediately without and next adjacent to the place where the Gallowgate or East Port of Glasgow, lately taken down, was situated."

regard to the dust entombed below, which might attract the steps of the occasional mourner towards the spot, impressed by tender recollections of the loved and lost. The eyes that were wont to moisten over its graves had long been closed in the sleep of death; and for many a generation there had no one beheld the turning of a single green sod in the old "Kirk-yaird." According to the statements of a gentleman, once a member of the magistracy, who died some time since at a good old age, this burial-place was, within the recollection of his informants, inclosed by a curious old-fashioned wall, with "boles in it," and was overgrown by rank grass and nettles; and here, it would seem—amid the tombstones of former days—the idle schoolboy might often be found at play.

To return to the Saracen's Head Inn, the building, as already mentioned, was completed in the year 1755, and its doors were then, we may conclude, thrown wide to all who might wish to inspect the arrangements of the establishment and partake of the good things provided by its spirited proprietor. The hôtel immediately rose into favour with the better class of the citizens, as well as with the noblemen and gentlemen residing in the neighbourhood; and many were the scenes of festivity beheld within its walls. Besides spacious dining-rooms where our jovial punch-loving ancestors could luxuriate in metropolitan comfort, there was attached to the building a handsome ball-room, in which the "beauty and fashion" of the last century were wont to assemble.* It was in the Saracen's Head that the Lords of Justiciary resided during their visits to Glasgow, and to it the celebrated "sporting" Duke of Hamilton was a frequent visitor; for nearly forty years, indeed, the house maintained a highly respectable character, and only yielded at last to the influence of a fashion that was pointing westward.

Among the principal events of a somewhat interesting nature which may be mentioned in connection with this now neglected building, was the assembling before it, in September 1768, of the imposing Masonic procession which proceeded from its portals for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the first Jamaica-Street Bridge. Great was the event of that day both to high and low; and if the public-spirited chief magistrate of the time, Mr. George Murdoch, was vain enough to be on that occasion the first of a long line of provosts to assume the golden chain of office, he had, in truth, no slight reason for the display of some honest pride—going forth, as he did, amid the acclamations of his fellow-citizens, to take, as it were, the initiative in the work that was to form a new link of communication between the opposite banks of the Clyde. Nor must we forget the sojourn of Dr. Johnson at this hôtel, on returning from his visit to the Western Isles. The reader will probably remember Boswell's amusing account of the great lexicographer's arrival at the Saracen's Head, when, in high glee at once more reaching the haunts of civilization, he threw himself

* The building is still in existence, and is now used as a chapel.

into a seat, and with a leg resting on each side of the grate, ejaculated with mock solemnity, "Here am I, an *Englishman,* sitting by a *coal* fire!"

This hôtel was, as may be supposed, a great posting house in its day. The stables connected with it contained upwards of sixty stalls; and at a period when the public stage-coach was a rarity, it was from these stables that many a "retour" (return) chaise was, through the bellman's necessary agency, advertised to start, as we learn from the poetical remains of Dougal Graham, who, in allusion to the duties of that functionary, informs us that

"The Bull Inn, and the Saracen,
Were both well serv'd with him at e'en,
As oft times we have heard and seen
Him eall retour
For E'nburg, Greenock, and Irvine,
At any hour."

Here, it may be added, the first Mail Coach from London that had ever arrived at Glasgow, drew up on the 7th July 1788. So great was the interest excited on this occasion, that the proprietor of the Inn, accompanied by a crowd of horsemen, rode out as far as the Clyde Iron Works to welcome its approach. According to Jones's Glasgow Directory for 1789, the Diligence for Edinburgh started at 9 o'clock morning, or *at any other hour that the first two passengers might agree on;* and that for Ayr, at 10 o'clock forenoon—both from "James Buchanan's Saracen's Head."

The year 1791 beheld a decline in the fortunes of this well-known Inn; and soon after it was sold to Mr. William Miller of Slatefield, who converted it into dwelling-houses and shops, and gave it the appearance which it now presents; he likewise built that addition on its eastern side which is seen to the right of the plate, adjoining the entry into Saracen's Lane. Before these alterations were made, it presented a much more respectable architectural appearance than now—the two wings projecting in proper keeping from roof to basement, while the central division was fronted by a broad flight of steps which formed at once a handsome and convenient approach.* During the operations carried on by Mr. Miller, many startling memorials of the ancient sanctity of the place were met with; and as great quantities of human bones made their appearance amid the sandy soil below, the workmen engaged were left, we may imagine, to ponder in some amazement at what must have appeared to them a matter no less singular than mysterious.

There are two curious relics of the Old Saracen's Head still in existence, which may, possibly, not be thought unworthy of a passing notice. One of these is the gigantic punch-bowl which had graced the head of the table on important occasions. This bowl is capable of holding several gallons, and bears all the marks of having seen long and trying service; in the interior is depicted a representation of the City Arms, accompanied by the motto, "Success to the Town of Glasgow." It is hardly

* The stones with which the Inn was built were chiefly taken from the ruins of the Episcopal Palace.

possible to become sentimental over a punch-bowl—that is, be it understood, when we have merely *the bowl* before us—otherwise there are doubtless many who, on looking upon this battered witness of the convivial moments of their ancestors, might well incline to turn a sad and pitying eye upon the degenerate littleness of modern days. The other *tabula naufragii* is the sign-board of the Inn—which bears, we are told, the model and paternal image of all the Saracens' Heads that ever waved before the wind in the "west countrie." The representation is that of a ferocious-looking Turk, with scimitar in hand—"fierce as ten furies," and terrible as Turk could with any propriety be. On the change which came over the condition of the original Inn, this specimen of art was removed from its accustomed place, and was eventually transferred to a prominent position on the front of another house of public entertainment, which arose on the south side of the Gallowgate, to perpetuate the name, if not the celebrity, of the Saracen's Head.

The Gallowgate Port, once an important feature in the locality, had its eastern face in a line with what is now called Great Dowhill Street. It was taken down, as previously mentioned, in the year 1749; but some traces of its existence were brought to light so recently as 1812, when, during the formation of a common-sewer, the foundation courses of the ancient gateway were exposed to view; and, singularly enough, there was dug up from among these last remains of the building, an uncommonly large and antique-looking key—in all probability that which had formerly appertained to the eastern gate of the city. This key is certainly one of no ordinary description, and is not unworthy of having its appearance preserved in the woodcut introduced below.*

Much more might be said of the old Saracen's Head, and of the class which lent it support, in that age of transition which intervened between the outbreak of "the 45" and the era of the French Revolution; but instead of dwelling upon the subject, we must refer the reader to some highly amusing papers, with regard to its former frequenters, &c., which have appeared in *Chambers' Edinburgh Journal*,† the *Laird of Logan*, and the *Scottish Monthly Magazine*, 1836-7; to any of which the curious in such matters may turn, with the certainty of enjoying a laugh at some of the peculiarities which distinguished the grandfathers of the present generation.

* It was handed over, when discovered, to Mr. John Buchanan of Slatefield; and, along with the punch-bowl previously mentioned, is now in the possession of his son, Mr. John Buchanan, secretary to the Western Bank of Scotland, to whom this work is indebted for many interesting details.

† *Vide* No. for June 20, 1840.

HOUSES ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE GALLOWGATE,

(Near Spoutmouth).

THIS range of buildings, situated considerably to the westward of what was the original Saracen's Head Inn, has been made the subject of an illustration, not from the possession of anything like an historical claim on our attention, but simply because it has been looked upon as a somewhat characteristic specimen of much of our old street architecture. At the side of the house to the left of the row there is affixed the date of 1714, which plainly tells the age of its erection. The two immediately adjoining belong evidently to a later period; but beyond them may be observed the pedimented windows of one of those quaintly ornamented buildings which speak of a more ancient tenure of the ground than can be boasted of by any of its neighbours. We can say little about it, however, farther than that it seems to have been in existence in the year 1666, at which period a conveyance of the property was made in favour of a person who is designated as "John Thomson, merchant in Glasgow." Towards the end of last century it belonged to, and was we believe occupied by, Mr. Hosier of Barrowfield. The lane or street seen to the left, is that known as the Spoutmouth. In 1778 a considerable coachwork existed at a short distance to the north-east of these buildings. At a subsequent period its inclosure was occupied as a fruit market, and continued to be so till the place of sale was transferred to Kent Street.

THE CROSS AND THE TRONGATE.

THE leading features which distinguished the eastern part of the Trongate a century ago, are but slightly changed at the present day. The Tolbooth, indeed, is gone; the Merchants' and Trades' Lands have followed; and the Guard-house no longer shows its arched façade in the middle distance: but, with the disappearance of these once well-known buildings, the lines of piazzas, and some few changes of minor importance, may be summed up the entire amount of modern innovation upon that line of street which, in the opinion of many a visitant, has been allowed to present a *coup d'œil* of a peculiar character, unequalled in any other city of Europe.

The drawing before us is copied from an old print, executed some eighty or ninety years ago, and has been taken from about the spot where the Market Cross of the city formerly stood. As was mentioned a few pages back, in our allusions to the "Bell of the Brae," it is probable that the Cross had, nominally at least, been removed from the higher part of the town to this spot, at a period as early as the episcopate of William Rae; at all events, it is certain that such was the case before the year 1419, when the Regent Albany was in power, and the rightful sovereign still a prisoner in England.* From an early age two lines of road would appear to have formed an intersection at this place—the one leading from the first church, or, it may be, from the chapel or cell of St. Kentigern, towards the ferry or ford situated near what became the southern termination of the "Fishersgait;" and the other, from the Chapel of St. Tenew towards that dedicated to her son, and latterly known as Little Saint Mungo's. As the buildings of the original town began in course of time to be extended downwards from the heights of the Rottenrow and Drygate into the plain situated between them and the river, these country roads became by degrees flanked with cottages, or rather, hovels; and thus were formed, we may believe, the first approaches towards the formation of streets along the line of, what may still be termed, the leading thoroughfares of the City. To the small houses rudely constructed of undressed stones, succeeded in course of time, the more commodious and more respectable-looking buildings, which in general presented their gables towards the street—their projecting floors supported upon beams of wood; and after these, in turn, came the "stately" edifices of ashlar, with their plain substantial fronts resting upon the massy foundations of the pillared arcades.

Of the four streets which meet at the Cross, we find, as might be expected, frequent mention in various old documents recently brought to light. The High Street appears to have, for a long time, held precedence as the most important of the number. It was, no doubt, the earliest built upon, and likewise, perhaps the first in which the progress of subsequent improvement began to be exhibited; and seems, in as far as we can discover, to have been looked upon in ancient times, as so much in advance of its compeers, that it was simply known as *The Street*, or the *Great Street*. The term "Hie Gait," was formerly applied indifferently to all the principal streets, just

* With regard to the Market Cross of the Burgh, the following notices may be referred to:—

18th July 1590—"The quhilk day, in presens of the baillies and counsall, comperit David Duncane, seruand to George Esdaill, and Williame Blair, pypar, and becomc in the provest and baillies and counsallis will, viz. the said David Duncane for clymmyng upoun the croce and breking of the samin, and the said Williaum Blair for being upoun the heid of the said croce, and playing upoun the heid thairof with ane pyp."—*Memorabilia*, p. 56.

22 Nov. 1659—"The same day the said Magistratis and Counsall haveing receavit warrand and ordours for downe takeing of the guard hous was buildit about and wpone the Croce, and in regaird the samyne Mercat Croce throw the building of the said guard hous thairupon, was altogether defaced. It is therefor now concludid to remove the samyne with all convenient diligence, and mak it equall with the grund," &c. On the 3d December following it was ordained that the spot where the Cross had stood should be causewayed "in ane most comly and decent maner."—*Ibid.* p.p. 195-6.

The Market Cross continued in existence, therefore, till near the period of the Restoration.

as we now say, the Highway; so that this appellation did not till recent times apply to the thoroughfare which now especially bears the name; even when M'Ure wrote, it was not known, apparently, by this term in particular—as he calls it "the High-Kirk Street." In a document dated 1430, as well as in many others drawn up prior to the Reformation, it is, as formerly mentioned, simply styled the Great Street, or the King's Street, leading from the Cathedral Church to the Market Cross; in no instance indeed, does there appear to have been any particular designation applied to the present High Street, previous to last century, unless that given by M'Ure had been long recognised among the citizens.

The Saltmarket, as a continuation of the High Street, was probably first built upon, when the houses of the latter were being gradually advanced in the direction of the row of buildings situated on the bank of the river, and known in the olden time as the Fishersgate.* In the reign of James the First of Scotland, and for more than a century afterwards, it was in Latin documents styled *Vicus Fullonum*, and in the common vernacular, "the Walcargat"—both having the same meaning, *i. e.* the street of the Fullers; or scourers of woollen cloth. When the dress of the people was chiefly composed of the "hodden grey," manufactured at their own doors, the fuller was, it may be supposed, a personage who seldom lacked employment; the reason why this fraternity should have been chiefly congregated about what is now the Saltmarket, may be accounted for, no doubt, by the presence of the Molendinar upon its eastern side, and the ancient low value of the ground in that particular locality.

From an early period, the Gallowgate seems to have borne the same name as at present. We meet with it as *Vicus Furcarum* (from the Latin *furca*, a gibbet)—*via Furcarum extra torrentem Malyndonar*—"The Gallovgait," &c.—all at dates removed from the present by an interval of three or four centuries. This appellation, as need scarcely be observed, was derived from the circumstance of the street having formerly led to the Gallow-moor—a tract of waste land partly occupied by the present infantry barracks, and where criminals were at one time executed.†

The chapel of Saint Thenaw, or Tenew, situated of old near the site of the existing St. Enoch's Church,‡ gave, in so far as is known, its most ancient name to the Trongate, which, as leading towards this chapel, was styled Saint Thenaw's Gate. It owes its modern appellation, as is generally known, to the public Tron or Weigh-house which stood upon its line. The privilege of having a free tron in the city, was granted by James the Fourth to the Bishop of Glasgow and his successors, in 1489-90; but it is only some sixty years afterwards, or about 1545, that the name of "Le Troyne Gait" begins to make its appearance in any of the old manuscripts which have as yet been examined.‡

* Now, Bridgegate. † On this moor stood the "butts," or targets for archery practice.

‡ "St. Enoch's," as the reader will perceive, is a modern corruption of "St. Tenew's."

§ Vide, "*Book of our Lady College*," Preface, p. xxxii.

For a considerable period after it began to assume the appearance of a street, the connected houses in the Trongate did not, it is probable, extend much farther to the westward than about the point where the Candleriggs now diverges to the north. By the time of the Reformation, however, or shortly afterwards, the line of buildings was, we may presume, pretty regularly filled up as far as the original West Port—a structure which stood until the year 1588, nearly opposite to the site of the present Brunswick Place. Beyond this barrier lay, in a general view, the open country—pastures and corn fields, rude-looking country homesteads, barns and other farm buildings, and enclosed "kail yards," with here and there a scanty sprinkling of trees; and, in the immediate vicinity of the town, a few cottages and gardens of a superior description.

From the *Muniments* of the Black Friars, &c., a tolerably respectable list might be compiled of the various private possessions which had been situated in Saint Tenew's Street, between the reign of James the Second or Third, and that of Queen Mary; but, as such a list would present a mere catalogue of houses and gardens, of which the actual localities cannot now be ascertained, there is little probability that it would prove of any interest to the reader. There are, however, some few particulars of a more general character to be derived from the same sources, which, as throwing an occasional ray of light upon the Trongate and its vicinity in Roman Catholic times, are not without a certain degree of value. Thus, as regards the more important buildings situated of old upon this line of way, we learn, that at the corner of the High Street stood the Court-house, or Town-hall—the "Pretorium," as ancient documents have it—of the city; a building, even then, we believe, of considerable age, which preceded the Tolbooth, to be afterwards referred to. A little farther to the west, on the same side of the street, was situated the Chapel of Saint Mary, or Our Lady Chapel, an edifice erected prior to the year 1300, and which had been allowed, it seems, to become ruinous many years before the advent of the Reformation.* On the opposite, or south side of the Trongate, rose the Collegiate Church of Saint Mary and Saint Anne, with its adjoining cemetery. This church was only completed some ten or eleven years previous to the abolition of Catholicism in Scotland; and, like most other structures of the kind, was rather rudely handled during the troubles which occurred when the startled ecclesiastics were ejected from their accustomed haunts and homes. Plundered, we may believe, of every thing in the shape of ornament that could be carried away, it appears, after this luckless change of fortune, to have been allowed to remain for some twenty or thirty years in a state of ruin; but was subsequently repaired and converted into a Presbyterian place of worship. As such, this building continued in existence, under the name of the "Laigh Kirk," down to the year 1793, when it was destroyed by fire—and a noted conflagration did the old structure produce, according to the recollections of some of those who were present on the occasion.

* Vide, *Liber Collegii Nostre Domine*, &c., Preface, p. xxxiii.

The remainder of the Trongate proper—that is, within the West Port—had apparently been occupied by private houses, but these were not, in former times, separated by that fine breadth of street which now attracts the attention of the stranger as he emerges from the winding ascent of the Gallowgate into full view of the long perspective stretching to the west. On the contrary, until comparatively recent times, the street, near the Tron Steeple, was much encroached upon by a range of houses of an inferior description, with a passage upon either side, and forming, it is probable, as unsightly an excrescence in the vista of the Trongate, as did the well-known Luckenbooths in that of the High Street of Edinburgh. The principal portion of these buildings was acquired, it is said, by the civic authorities, who were thus enabled to widen the street to its present extent; a part, however—either in connexion with them, or immediately adjoining—was, for some unknown reason, left unpurchased, and the consequence is, that there remains to the present day a very inconvenient projection upon the public thoroughfare, between the upper end of King Street and the passage leading to the Tron Church.*

The only structures of any importance, situated beyond the West Port, seem to have been the Chapels of Saint Tenew and of Saint Thomas the Martyr, which stood apparently not far from each other, near the site of the present St. Enoch Square. Of St. Thomas' Chapel little is known, beyond the mere circumstance of its existence: that of St. Tenew,† or Saint Thenaw, the respected mother of Kentigern—was said to have been erected over her tomb, and long did the ground it covered remain sacred in the eyes of the "faithful," as the last resting-place of the holy lady who had watched the infant steps of the great apostle of the Cumbrian Britons. This place of worship had a burial-ground attached to it, as may be learned from the Registers of the Church of Saint Mary and Saint Anne, in which it is mentioned, that in or about the year 1549, a certain property was situated between the public vennel, (venellam) on the one side, and the cemetery of St. Tenew on the other.‡ At no great distance from the chapel, there flowed a spring, known as Saint Tenew's well, and to the westward of it passed the streamlet which likewise bore her name, and which continued to do so, although under a disguised form, as long as its waters were permitted to flow in the light of day.§ In the opinion of all good Catholics, the spring referred to was invested with something of a sacred character. This appears to have been one of those minor remains of superstition which were slow to disappear, even long after the destruction of the system which had fostered their

* *Vide*, Sketch of the History of Glasgow, by James Pagan, p. 102.

† Registrum Episc. Glasguens. p. 427. ‡ p. 28.

§ In 1662 the Magistrates and Council directed that "ane handsome litle brige, with ane penn, be put over St. Tenowes burne," *Memorabilia*, p. 239. This burn has since then been so effectually arched over, that no part of its course can now be observed.

existence. "I have been told," says the editor of the *Book of our Lady College*, "that within the memory of man, Saint Thenaw's Well was not unfrequently resorted to with feelings in which devotion might claim to hold a part." So difficult is it to eradicate the ideas implanted by a system which addresses itself to the imagination rather than to the heart.

The chapel of Saint Tenew continued in existence till about the close of the sixteenth century; some traces of the building were even to be seen, it is said, till within the last hundred and fifty years.* As to the localities around, or situated between it and the Cross, in the days of Roman Catholic supremacy, but little can be said.—We learn that, near Saint Tenew's Chapel there was a field or piece of ground named the Palyard Croft, and farther east, on the south side of the way or street, the "Mutal Croft," to the south of which was situated, in 1487, the *Viridarium*, or public park—the same known at an after period as the "Doucatt Green."† The crofts just mentioned seem to have been cultivated grounds, subdivided amongst a number of proprietors, and in some places converted into gardens. The *Viridarium* was, on the contrary, as its name implies, a grassy common, probably interspersed with trees, and skirting in early times the banks of the river from about the Old Bridge to the Broomielaw. Under the date of 1487, mention is made in a deed of sale, of a house situated "in Vico Piscatorum" near the "Stok Wel." In a similar document, drawn up in 1530, this latter is again referred to, as having upon its east side the barn of Elizabeth Herbertsoune, the tenement of John "Stevyn," and the lands belonging to the chaplainry, founded in the parochial church of Cadder by Master Thomas Leys, vicar of "Dregarne."‡

We must, however, abandon those olden times, and descend to others somewhat nearer to our own, before we can properly refer the reader to the plate before us, or attempt to say anything of the buildings which it presents to view.—This illustration is copied from a very rare engraving, published about the middle of last century, and places the spectator, as it were, at the Cross of Glasgow, on—let us say—the high-noon of a summer day, during the times of George the Second, at an hour when the lower classes were engaged in their workshops, and when few but the foreign merchants, or an occasional country proprietor, or city idler, were to be seen upon the principal street. There is a cheerful look about the picture—its spacious airy appearance and sunlit houses—pleasant to linger upon; and curiously does its quiet reposing aspect seem to mirror forth to our restless age a reminiscence of the less disturbed and speculative character of the times which have gone past. There—congregated in little groups near the stair of the Tolbooth, or standing around the piazzas under the Town Hall, may be seen a number of the leading men of the city—the merchants

* *Ibid.* Preface, p. xxxiii. † *Munimenta Frat. Predic.* p. 200.
‡ *Book of Our Lady College*, p. 92.

who traded with the plantations beyond seas, and who were accustomed to lord it so "bravely" over their fellow citizens—wearing the cocked hats of the period, and wrapped in cloaks of scarlet dye. Few other persons are to be observed upon the street. Here and there a sober citizen, with, we shall suppose, his wife, are seen passing along; to the left, a street porter is bending beneath the weight of what may be a keg of herrings, or a goodly roll of tobacco; nearer the corner of the Saltmarket, two of the same class seem to be waiting for employment; while advancing along the centre of the street, may be observed, what was possibly the two-horse fly on its return from Greenock, and, proceeding in an opposite direction, the carriage of perhaps one of the neighbouring nobility or county gentlemen, with its livery servant behind.

The perspective of the Trongate, as we see it in the plate, had been, with the exception of a few buildings, entirely called into existence subsequent to the great fires of 1652 and 1677. In the first of these visitations, numerous houses in this street are said to have been consumed; and in the latter, the entire range from the Saltmarket to the Tron Steeple was burned to the ground; consequently, with the exception of the spire mentioned, and of the Tolbooth, none of the buildings represented in the plate were, we may believe, more than a century old at the time when the view was taken. It is evident, that along with the removal of the old houses and the introduction of a better style of building, many other improvements were effected in the condition and appearance of the locality, if we may judge by the exertions made more than two hundred years ago, to abate or remove the various nuisances which had at one time been permitted to exist in the principal thoroughfares. In the Burgh Records numerous entries are to be met with, which serve to show what was the state of this neighbourhood for a century and more after the Reformation; the following may not be without some little interest to those who incline to cast a retrospective glance at the minor memorials of the city:—As might be understood from a previous extract, the pedestal of the Market Cross had, in the seventeenth century, been apparently situated between lines of traders' booths; this was equally the case so early as the year 1589, when it was ordered by the authorities that all "crameris" of woollen cloth should stand in the street above the Cross, under the penalty of sixteen shillings Scots; but it was at the same time to be allowable for freemen who had booths beneath the Cross to stand with their merchandise in front of the same."* In 1610 the order was made public, that no dunghills were thereafter to be placed in any of the front streets, nor in the "flesche" or meal markets; also, that no "skynnis nor tymbir" should be permitted to lie in the main thoroughfares for more than a year and a day; (!) and that no stacks of turf should be built, nor any lint dried on the "hie gait," under the penalty of various fines or confiscations, not to be lightly regarded.

* *Memorabilia*, p. 54.

In the same year it was enjoined, that all fruit, kale, and onion "cramis" should be placed between "the gutter and the gibbet," and that every stand should be an ell in length and the same in breadth. In 1623 an edict was issued condemnatory of the practice of stamping or washing clothes, yarn, and such like, on the public street, or indeed in any other quarter "bot onlie in houssis and privat plaissis."—The practice amongst the dealers in almost every description of commodities, of having stands erected along the sides of the street, on which their wares were exposed for sale, was very common, and long pertinaciously clung to. By the middle of the seventeenth century the custom seems to have met with considerable opposition from the magistrates, who, at length, on the 10th December 1659, fulminated an edict against it—commanding that all those who had been accustomed to set up stands at the Cross, were in future "to keep at thair awn houssis;" but, as a *solatium*, they were to be allowed an exception on the market day, on the weekly return of which it was to be permitted them to erect their "craimes" in the Trongate, to the west of where the shoemakers were accustomed to congregate. At the same time the magistrates were recommended to "see" that "the weemen and wyfs who sells salt on the Hie Street," should stand beneith "Dowhills foirzett" (front gate).† In addition to these particulars, we learn from the same source, that in 1661 "the sour milk mercatt" was removed from the Cross to the Gallowgate Bridge;‡ and that in 1666 it was the custom of the butchers "to slay and bluid" all the cattle they killed, in open day and on both sides of the Trongate—a practice described as being "verie lothsome to the beholders," and which would seem to have been in that year put down.‡

Subsequent to the destructive fire of 1677, the authorities appear to have adopted the most energetic steps to improve upon the former style of building, and by such means to erect a barrier, as it were, against the return of so sweeping a calamity. It was consequently ordained by them, within a few weeks of the event, that each person who intended to build *de novo*, or to repair any of the injured houses fronting the public streets, should be obliged to do so with stone "from heid to foot, back and foir," without making use of any timber whatever, excepting what was necessary to finish off the interior of the houses—explained to signify, for the construction of "partitions, doors, windows, presses, and such lyk." It was likewise enjoined that the upper floors of the new buildings should not be made to project beyond the front of the shops below.§

The last of these memorabilia with which we shall detain the reader, before proceeding to take a hasty glance at the history of the principal buildings which occupy the view, refers to a trait of manners which appears somewhat curious when mentioned in connexion with the streets of Glasgow and the sober days of William of Orange. We allude to the practice—only heard of when it calls down the repro-

* *Memorabilia*, p. 196. † *Ibid.* p. 225. ‡ *Ibid.* 263, 283. § *Ibid.* p.p. 307–8.

bation of the authorities—of the young—may we add, the gallant and the gay, frequenting the public places in the shade of night, to stir the silent hours with music and with song:—

"With dulcimer and lute, whose silver sound
Bids gentle sleep forsake my lady's eyes;"

or—as the record more prosaically has it—going "throw the tonne in the night tyme maskerading, or sirenading, in companie with violls or other instruments of musick, in any numbers."*—Doubtless, such doings were common and uninterfered with in Catholic times; and this was, probably, a lingering vestige of the olden customs which it had been found difficult, even in the course of three or four generations, completely to abolish. It is, no doubt, an easier matter—as has been remarked before now—to change the political condition and even the religious opinions of nations, than to eradicate the popular amusements, the songs, the games, and traditionary affections of a people. With all this, however, the idea of a *bona fide* serenade in the Trongate, and of lute or viol "vexing the ear of night" within the classic shades of the Saltmarket, or mayhap, in the once pretending locality of "Bell's Wynd," is amusing enough, and on the whole somewhat refreshing, for it seems a relief to hear of a little "fun and frolic" having found elbow-room amongst our predecessors, at a period when so many claims were urged in behalf of that stern rule of conduct which set at nought the lighter aspirations of the heart, and stamped the gloomy features of a compulsory form, not so much of religion as of religious observance, upon the good people of the North. We cannot say what was the station and character of the serenaders referred to; but, whatever their rank or bearing, there could not, in all probability, have been much harm done by an occasional roundelay upon the streets at midnight; and who can tell—should some future Shakespeare arise and happen to stumble upon our Burgh Records, but that the piazzas of the Trongate may yet in stage romance rival the "dim arcades" of Mantua, or the moon-lit archways of the Veronese.

But, to return from these digressions, it becomes necessary to say something of the more important of the buildings represented in the plate. The most prominent, and that to which precedence must of course be given, is the Tolbooth—that once familiar structure, which had for nearly two centuries looked down upon the daily stir of life in its ebb and flow at the central point of the city. As previously stated, there stood, before the Reformation, at the north-east corner of the Trongate, a building mentioned in old documents as the "Pretorium," which seems to have combined both Town Hall or Court House, and Prison. Having become perhaps in some degree ruinous, but at all events insufficient to serve the purposes for which it was intended, it was on the 11th February 1626 agreed upon by the Town Council,

* *Memorabilia*, p. 379.

that the Provost and Magistrates should be authorised to arrange with certain individuals about having it pulled down, and to see if any deduction could be had from the three hundred merks offered to be taken as the price of its demolition. They were at the same time empowered to contract for a new clock, and to "deill" with the tenants whose booths were situated under the walls of the building about to be removed.*

Here then, in all due form, is the opening of the drama that was to usher into existence the renowned Tolbooth of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The next turn of the leaf may be expected to direct our attention to the actual commencement of the work, and, accordingly, we soon discover that the worthy magnates of the city have become so much interested in the business, that "they all in ane voice" determine that a quantity of stones should be provided for the erection of the Tolbooth —aye, no less than "about" two thousand pieces of "hewn work," and "some wall stanis"† besides. After an exhibition of unanimity and liberal feeling such as this, it need scarcely be mentioned, that matters progressed with considerable speed, and that, before the sun of the 15th May 1626 had set over the city, the foundation stone had been laid of the building that was in future years to elevate its spire for many an age before his returning beams, and, to become welcome as the face of an old friend to the weary wanderer from his paternal home when—satisfied with the gifts of Fortune, or, hopeless of her favour—he returned to mingle his own dust with that of the first fond guardians of his boyish years.

It was, of course, no more than in proper keeping with the zeal manifested by those at the helm of affairs, that the progress of the edifice towards completion should be rapid; and, accordingly, it will not, perhaps, surprise the reader to be told that by the 20th October 1627, the completion was so near at hand, that the city treasurer was on that day called upon to disburse to "Valentyne Ginking," the sum of thirty pounds Scots, for gilding the clock and vanes, and "culloring of the same yallow, with the glob and standart, and stanes above the steiple heid."‡ Before the close, therefore, of that year, we may suppose the entire building to have been, at least externally, completed, and the grand ideal of its projectors to have become tangibly realised.§

The appearance of the structure will be best understood by a reference to the plate, and none will probably be inclined to deny that it must have formed one of the principal ornaments of the city, although few may be found to agree with Dr. Cleland,

* *Memorabilia*, p. 79–80. † *Ibid.* p. 77–8. ‡ *Ibid.* p. 82.

§ With regard to the Tolbooth, and likewise, the present Town Hall, to which we shall again refer, numerous are the mistakes which have crept into print—some of them arising from the favourite system of copying whatever any previous writer had advanced, and others owing to the difficulty at one time felt of acquiring authentic information. To the latter cause we may probably ascribe Dr. Cleland's assertion, that the "old jail," as he calls it, was erected in the year 1603. See his *Statistical Tables*, &c., 1823, p. 174.

in describing it as "a handsome *gothic* building."* Francks, writing in 1658, takes notice of the Tolbooth, as "a very sumptuous, regulated, uniform fabrick; large and lofty, most industriously and artificially carved, from the very foundation to the superstructure, to the great admiration of strangers and travellers;" and, he continues, "this state-house, or tolbooth, is their western prodigy, infinitely excelling the model and usual built of town halls; and is, without exception, the paragon of beauty in the west; whose compeer is no where to be found in the north, should you rally the rarities of all the corporations in Scotland." Without permitting our ideas to soar on the wings of the writer's enthusiasm, it may justly be averred, that this was a building which the good town had every reason to be proud of, and which, in a certain sense, afforded evidence of liberal and expanded views on the part of the inhabitants.

The interior contained a Court Hall, Town-Council Chamber, Dean of Guild and Collector's Rooms, &c., with various apartments for the confinement of prisoners—both according to M'Ure, of "note and distinction," and of ordinary degree. The Council Room, situated on the second floor, was adorned with several portraits, to which we shall again have occasion to refer, and contained besides, as our author forgets not to mention, "a fine large oval table, where the magistrates and town council, and their clerk," were accustomed to sit. Cleland remarks of this apartment, that "it had a lofty ceiling, an antique ornamented chimney-piece, and the appearance of having been well finished;" he likewise states that the Justiciary Court was held in the hall, upon the first floor of the Tolbooth, until the year 1795, when it was transferred to an adjoining building in the High Street.†

It may well be imagined that, by the time when its latter days were at hand, this stately old pile had become associated in the minds of the citizens, with many of the occurrences of public importance, or of local interest, which had marked the progress of affairs, from the troubled era of the civil wars down to the jubilee birthday of George the Third—the glorious *fourth* of June 1809. Was it not there, for instance, in front of those very casements, that on an autumn day in the year 1645, the citizens had congregated with anxious looks, as the the tidings flew from lip to lip that "James Graham" had been victorious at Kilsyth, while the provost and magistrates were assembled within—deliberating on the measures that should be adopted

* In front of the building were placed the Royal Arms, beneath them, a sun dial, and under that, the inscription,—

HÆC DOMUS ODIT, AMAT, PUNIT, CONSERVAT, HONORAT,
NEQUITIAM, PACEM, CRIMINA, JURA, PROBOS.

On the south side of the steeple, are carved the armorial bearings of the archbishop of the see, and on the north, the Royal initials, C. R. surmounted by a Crown, &c.

In the work entitled "*The Present State of Scotland,*" published in 1715, the Tolbooth of Glasgow is referred to as "a magnificent structure of hewen stone, with a very lofty tower, and melodious chimes, which ring pleasantly at the end of every hour"—these chimes, as mentioned in a former page, had been originally intended for the steeple of the Merchant's Hall.

† *Stat. Tables*, 1823, *appendix* p. 174.

to appease the conqueror, and, if possible, to keep his unbreeched followers from making a descent upon the town? This was truly a season of tribulation to the worthy burghers; and many an inquiring eye was turned towards that projecting stair-case during the tedious hours that passed ere it became known that the "Marquis"—he had now recovered his title—would prove a generous victor, and that his Highland host should be kept under proper subjection.*

Was it not likewise, in front of those identical steps, that only some two months later the gloomy processions were formed in succession, which had been arranged to conduct to the place of execution three of the leading commanders in that same array—Sir William Rollock, Sir Philip Nisbet, and Alexander Ogilvie, the Highland Chief: while about the same period the "hall of council" became the scene of no little agitation, on the one hand to combat the resolutions of the Committee of Estates, and on the other to provide, if possible, against the increase of the plague, which was then ravaging the city.

Among other scenes of historical notoriety, which had been witnessed from the Tolbooth, may be mentioned the march of Cromwell at the head of his victorious troops, when, after the conflict at Dunbar, he thought proper to confer the honour of a visit on the inhabitants of Glasgow. Arriving from Kilsyth, he on this occasion diverged to the westward, and marched his troops into the town by the road called the Cow Loan—fearing, it is said, to pass the Castle or Bishop's Palace, in consequence of a report that the Presbyterian party had filled its vaults with gunpowder, with the intention of immolating his forces at one grand blow.† It was, doubtless, with no pleasant feelings, that the citizens stood by to behold the steel head-pieces of his Ironsides glittering along the Trongate, and "Old Noll" himself eyeing from under his broad-brimmed hat the successive groups which stood gazing as he passed. A few months later, the Court Hall of the Tolbooth received the assemblage convened by Cromwell's staunch supporter, the future Principal Gillespie, for the purpose of recording a protest against the claims of Charles the Second, who had a short time previously been crowned at Scone, and whose then short-lived sovereignty the battle of Worcester was, within the same year, to dispel like a dream.‡

We have next, as regards matters of a public nature, the important affair of the Restoration, and the external rejoicings to which it gave birth, not only within the walls of the Tolbooth, but in all parts of the city. The results of this return to a monarchial form of government, were unfortunately of disastrous consequence to the people of Scotland; but, while the future was as yet unveiled, and the hope of a settled and

* The Committee of Estates was not a little wroth with the magistrates of Glasgow for having "capitulated," as it was termed, "with James Grahame"—they certainly availed themselves of the only means in their power to save the place from being plundered—but none of the said committee happened, we may believe, to have either wife or child located at the time in the city of St. Mungo.

† *Cleland's Annals*, ii. 24. ‡ *Ibid.* p. 26.

paternal system of rule high in the ascendant, it was of course natural, that there should be many exuberant manifestations of public feeling; and that such were not a-wanting in Glasgow, is apparent from an entry in the Burgh Records, dated 18th June 1660, in which, with regard to the "congratulatioune" to be kept for the happy return of "our dread Soverayne, the Kingis Majestie," it is agreed upon that bonfires should be lighted in the streets, that all the other "solemnities requisit" should be attended to, and that two hogsheads of wine should be provided for the use of the military then quartered in the town.* As Motherwell sung,

"The fire that's blawn on Beltane e'en
May weel be black gin Yule;"

and truly something of a change was not long of being experienced by the good people of the west, when the real character of the new directors of affairs began to be displayed, since but a few years afterwards the "Highland Host" was let loose upon the country, and English troopers were stationed on the Sunday mornings at the gates of the city, to prevent any of the inhabitants from leaving it to attend the conventicles, and to worship as they felt inclined.

These proceedings, coupled with others of a similar nature, led, as is well known, to many hostile demonstrations in the west of Scotland—not the least important being the unexpected event, the defeat at Drumclog, which compelled the imperious Claverhouse to take shelter in Glasgow, and to entrench his routed followers in the vicinity of the Tolbooth. On this occasion the lofty pile looked down, if we may hazard the expression, upon a scene which must have startled the peaceable citizens in no ordinary degree. There, was to be seen the implacable instrument of Royal authority, Colonel Graham, directing his soldiers in the business of barricading every approach to the Cross, and posting them here and there in the best protected positions; while amid the stir of these preparations, the heads of the attacking columns made their appearance—one division advancing down the High Street, and another pressing forward from the passage through the Gallowgate Port. And boldly did the undisciplined peasantry of Clydesdale—the men who had buckled on the sword for conscience' sake—conduct themselves on that occasion, when, under the leadership of such determined characters as Hakston of Rathillet and John Balfour of Burley, they ventured to assail the defences of the Royal troops. They were unsuccessful, it is true, in forcing the position; but they maintained the contest at great disadvantage, long enough to compel many of the soldiery to fall back before the storm of their whistling bullets, and to seek shelter in the adjoining closes, or behind the

* *Memorabilia*, p. 206.

† The assailants had six men killed in the attack, including Walter Paterson, farmer in Carbarns, parish of Cambusnethan. See *Wilson's Relation of the Battle of Bothwell Bridge, &c.* published in 1751.

stair of the Tolbooth.† "We did enter the town," says an old Cameronian poem,

"At all the entrise four,
But yet their forts were so high
That we could not run ouer;
But yet we put them in a fray,
And did return againe,
And by the pleasant streims of Clyd
Encamped on ye plain." *

Only a brief interval elapsed however, after these exciting events, before the complexion of affairs was so greatly altered, that every idea of participation in the opinions of the country people, had apparently vanished from among the citizens of Glasgow; while—unlooked-for change!—the hero of "Bothwell Brig," the generous and hapless Duke of Monmouth, became the "cynosure of every eye" as he rode into the town—the snowy plumes of his beaver stirring in the breeze, and his fine open countenance and chivalrous bearing winning, in spite of his position and lineage, the admiration, we may believe, of many a sparkling eye; and commanding, as we know, the respectful attentions of the authorities of the city—more perhaps from prudential motives than any other consideration, although probably enough, the inhabitants had ere then discovered, that it was solely owing to the good will and determination of Monmouth, that their firesides had been preserved from the invasion of a rapacious soldiery and all the evils of unbridled licence.

It would prove tedious, however, to dwell upon every circumstance of public moment which might be brought to mind in association with the Cross of Glasgow, while the walls of the Tolbooth looked down upon each passing occurrence that had been witnessed there; but we must not omit to refer, however briefly, to such events as that which in the year 1680 wounded the feelings of all right-thinging men, when one of the mangled limbs of the valiant Laird of Rathillet was brought to Glasgow and fixed upon one of the spikes—placed for the purpose of exhibiting the heads, &c. of traitors before the eyes of our predecessors, on that part of the building which fronted the High Street;† and still less ought we to pass over the scenes of public rejoicing which were subsequently displayed, when—upon the platform of that flight of steps which had afforded cover to the soldiers of Claverhouse—the magistrates and other leading men of the community came forward to announce the singular success of the Prince of Orange, and the downfall of the old government—the tyranny of which, cannot after all, be so much ascribed to the monarch himself, as to the unprincipled agents to whom he had delegated his authority.

Nor would it be quite *en regle* to omit all mention of the excitement which had been witnessed in and around the building when the opposition against the measures of 1707 was at its height—and when the citizens of Glasgow, after burning the Articles

* See Appendix to M'Ure, p. 330.

† Cleland, *Enumeration*, &c., p. 247—who states that these spikes were only removed about forty years before the date of his volume (1832).

of Union at the Cross, came to the bold resolve of undertaking a march to Edinburgh, with the avowed object of dissolving a parliament that, in their opinion, was about to make a sale of the country. And again, there is the troubled era of the Earl of Mar's rebellion, a period certainly not to be overlooked; which beheld the inhabitants applying for weapons of "carnal warfare" at the doorway of the Tolbooth, and labouring to entrench the city against the dreaded onslaught of an entire legion of those troublesome visitors — described by Bailie Jarvie as having such a cordial understanding amongst themselves, against all who wore "breeks on their hinner ends," and had purses in their pockets.

To these reminiscences might be added a retrospective glance at the occurrences of the Malt-Tax riot of 1725—of the visit of Charles Edward on his retreat from Derby—of the proclaiming of George the Third as King—and of various other events of no slight local importance in their day; but which have already been so frequently treated of, that it might appear little less than treason against the literary character of our good city, to make any attempt, at the present day, to re-invest them with the garb of novelty, or to aim at casting upon these pages of our bygone history one single ray of additional light.*

Passing from the old Court House and Prison, we must briefly advert to the Town Hall—a building which so long contrasted in the freshness of comparative youth, with the dark and stern aspect of its immediate neighbour, and which even yet seems slow to assume the appearance of age, to judge by the deeper traces which the passage of time is leaving upon many a structure of inferior antiquity.—By the majority of our local historians it has been erroneously stated, that the existing Town Hall was erected in 1636—a mistake somewhat singular with regard to a building of so much notoriety as this, but one which may have been inadvertently adopted by confounding the present Hall with the old Council Chamber, formerly contained within the Tolbooth. The veritable history of the edifice shows that, in the year 1735, the magistrates and council purchased from Mr. John Graham, of Dougalston, certain old houses and vacant ground, near the Cross, as the intended

* In taking, as it were, a parting glance at the Tolbooth, the following few extracts may not be considered out of place :—

1646 7th Jan.—It is ordained that Thomas Browne and Robert Mack should have charge of the "magasene" and that "the haill pouldir in the toune, ball, and vthers armes and amounitioune be brought in to the tolbuithe and put in thair keipping," &c.—*Memorabilia*, p. 143.

1660, 9th April.—The Jailor is voted the sum of "twenty punds for his extraordinarie paines in attending the tolbuith this long tyme bygane, haveing got no profeit therby, having only theifes and lounes his prisoners.—*Ibid.* p. 222.

1697 4th Sept.—The Treasurer is directed to pay to "Alexander Cunninghame, servitor to Wm. Carmichael, keeper of the Tolbuith; the soume of four score two pounds, fourten shilling, four pennies, Scots money, depursed be him for the maintinance of the witches, who are prisoners here, in the Tolbuith," &c.—*Ibid.* p. 394.

On the 12th March 1698, a second payment occurs for "maintaineing witches and warlocks in the Tolbuith."—*Ibid.* p. 398.

1698, 29th Dec.—The Treasurer is authorised to pay to "John Corse, late baillie," £75 : 8*s.* Scots, "as the pryce of the lamp now affixt to the corner of the Tolbooth, and fraught and expenses of bringing the same frae London."—*Ibid.* p. 393.

site of a new Council Hall and Assembly Rooms; and, that in the following year (1736), the foundation stone of the proposed building was laid by Mr. Coulter, then Lord Provost of the city.* The erection of the edifice was entrusted to "Deacon Corse," but was carried on chiefly under the superintendence of his foreman, the afterwards somewhat celebrated Mungo Naismith;† to whose hands we are indebted, it would appear, for the grotesque visages which look down upon the passers-by from the key-stones along the arches of its piazzas. The building was completed in 1740, when the new Town Hall was thrown open, and the first regular Assembly Rooms established in this city, were prepared for the reception of that portion of the fashionable world which had, till then, threaded the mazes of the dance beneath the roof-tree of the Merchants' Hospital in the Bridgegate.‡

Into these new premises, when ready for their reception, were removed the various paintings which, when M'Ure published his work, served to decorate the Town-Council Hall, situated on the second floor of the Tolbooth. They consisted of portraits of our sovereigns, from James the First of England to George the Second, inclusive—all of which still line the walls to which they were about a century ago transferred.§ With regard to these paintings, some curious details are to be met with in the Burgh Records. On the 4th June 1670, for instance, the Provost is authorised to desire the Dean of Guild, then in London, to purchase the portraits of King Charles the First and Second, and also a carpet, "and to send all home for the tounes use." Under date of 29th August following, we find that that of the reigning monarch had been procured at the expense of twenty-five pounds sterling;‖ but the effigy of the "martyr-king" could not, it would seem, be so readily obtained, as it had not made its appearance by the month of June 1677, when the Council again took up the subject—"appoynting the provost to use all dilligence" to have the picture completed, "that it may be hung in the Counsell-hous, with the rest now there." To effect this the more speedily, it appears to have been thought advisable to quicken the artist's proceedings by some hints of a tangible nature, as, a month or two later, the treasurer receives credit for the sum of five pounds sterling, "payit to Johne Hendrie, in part payment for quhat he is to get for drawing the Kyngs Charles the First his portratur."¶ In reference to the portrait of James the Second,

* Cleland's Extracts from the Public Records.—*Stat. Tables*, &c., 1823, pp. 187–8.

† He acquired considerable fame by the erection of St. Andrew's Church, and other public works.

‡ *Cleland's Enumeration*, &c. 1832, p. 252.—In the *Memorabilia*, (p. 510,) it is recorded, that during the troubles of the Rebellion in September 1745, a meeting of the inhabitants had been held "in the Touns New Hall," which shows, should any such evidence be necessary, that it had then been somewhat recently built; but the style of the architecture, so very similar to that adopted in Mr. Murdoch's residence, now the Buck's Head Inn, and in many of the houses in Miller Street, &c.—would of itself, we think, be sufficient to show that the present Town Hall could not have been erected during the reign of Charles the First.

§ When in 1740 the New Town Hall was opened, that in the Tolbooth was converted into prison rooms.—Cleland, *Extracts, &c.* p. 174.

‖ *Memorabilia*, pp. 286–289. ¶ *Ibid.* pp. 304, 306.

we find that it was procured in 1683, while he was still Duke of York, and that it cost the town twenty pounds sterling.* Those of William and Mary were purchased in 1708, from "Mr. Scowgall, limner in Edinburgh," for twenty-seven pounds; that of Queen Anne, in 1712, from "John Scougall, elder, painter," for fifteen pounds; while, with regard to the portrait of her successor, it is recorded, under date of 21st September 1717, that the treasurer had been authorised to pay the same amount to "Robert Robertson, merchant, as the pryce of the picture of his Majesty King George, now put up in the Council house."† They are all full-length paintings, and several of them have been regarded as very creditable works of art. In addition to those mentioned, the Hall contains portraits of George the Third, and of Archibald Duke of Argyll in his robes as Lord Justice General—a painting by Ramsay, which has been greatly admired.

The only other objects of interest represented in the plate are:—the Tron Steeple, erected in 1637–8, in the under part of which the public weigh-house was for many years established; the well-known statue of William the Third, elevated to its present position in 1735; and the Guard-house, situated at the west corner of the Candleriggs, from which the protectors of the slumbering city were wont to make their rounds—a duty performed by the inhabitants, in rotation, before such things were known as a parliamentary police force, and the nightly march of lanterns that now heralds the hours,—

> "When rogues pere in and eke pere out,
> Right many of them bee,
> And honest men with bale in thought,
> Spede by all warylie."

Beyond this building may be observed the spire of the old Hutchesons' Hospital, which may be said to terminate the view. Near the spectator on the right, are numerous specimens of the piazzas already alluded to, and also of the rows of posts, which, previous to the introduction of foot pavements, had served to protect a portion of the street from the intrusion of horses and vehicles.‡ In conclusion, it may be observed, that at the period when this view was taken, many of the principal families of the city—those of the physicians, merchants, and lawyers, of the most respectable standing, resided in the Trongate; and—as the inhabitants have always appeared to cherish a peculiar interest in his renown—we may be permitted to mention, that within that building on which the light is falling, near the entrance of the Candleriggs, was born on the 13th of November, 1761, the hero who, forty-eight years afterwards, was to lay down his life in the hour of victory upon the bloody field of Corunna—bestowing his last thoughts on his country and on the parent who gave him birth, and leaving the recollection of much that was great and good to form a brilliant halo round the memory of—Sir John Moore.

* *Memorabilia*, p. 336. † *Ibid.* pp. 420, 423, 465.

‡ It may be remarked, that foot pavements were not introduced into Glasgow till the year 1777, and that they only became general after the first police act was obtained in 1800—the east side of the Candleriggs, from Bell Street to the Trongate, had the honour of being the first part of the city which exhibited this improvement—*Cleland's Stat. Tables*, 1823, p. 191.

OLD SUGAR-HOUSE, OFF THE GALLOWGATE; AND FIDDLER'S CLOSE.

IN neither of these subjects is there anything to be found particularly worthy of attention, beyond perhaps, the mere interest which attaches to them as representations of buildings claiming the title to a somewhat respectable age.

The first presents a sketch of the existing remains of the "Easter Sugar Work"—an edifice at one time entitled to honourable mention, as affording proof of the energy with which the enterprise of the western metropolis of Scotland had advanced to rival other nations in some of their principal branches of trade. It was, we believe, during the Protectorate of Cromwell, that the merchants of Glasgow began to turn their attention towards the refining of sugar.* The business was, at that period, almost exclusively in the hands of the Dutch, and appears to have proved rather an important source of revenue to those respectable gentlemen, the Burgomasters and others, who had their tulip gardens by the shades of Haerlem, or their picture galleries on the shores of the Zuyder Zee. But it was at length decreed, that a portion of this lucrative trade should be carried elsewhere, and by degrees, occasional "sugar bakers," overseers and workmen, began to make their appearance among the citizens of Glasgow—forsaking, in pursuit of gain, the favoured borders of the Amstel to take up their quarters by the waters of Clyde.

The first Sugar Work established in this city, upon what may be termed an important scale, was, we believe, that erected at the west end of Bell Street, in 1667; the second, was the building shown in the plate—built about two years later in the vicinity of the Gallowgate. They were both established by joint-stock companies, formed of a few individuals from among the principal merchants.† The business appears to have proved of so lucrative a nature, that in course of time it became greatly extended; so much so, that previous to the middle of last century there were no less than five sugar refineries at work in Glasgow,‡ each giving employment to a considerable number of persons, and adding not a little to the prosperity as well as the industrial character of the place.

FIDDLER'S CLOSE is a narrow court or lane, leading off the east side of the High Street. The buildings on either side possess a considerable share of architectural

* *Vide* Gibson's History, p. 246.

† M'Ure mentions that the proprietors of the Easter Sugar Work, were *John Cross, James Peadie, John Luke, George Bogle, and Robert Cross.* Edit. 1830, p. 228.

‡ The third was situated in Stockwell, the other two were in King Street—one of these was called the "Little Sugar House," and belonged to "William Gordon and Haik Bettiken, sugar boiler:" *M'Ure*, p. 258.—In 1726 it was agreed upon between the magistrates and the proprietors of the sugar refineries, that the latter should regularly send their work people, provided with buckets, to aid in the extinction of fires, on condition that the men should be relieved from the responsibility of serving in the city guard.—*Memorabilia*, p. 484.

FIDDLERS' CLOSE, No. 75 HIGH STREET.

OLD SUGAR HOUSE, No. 138 CANONGATE.

JAMES WATT'S HOUSE DELFTFIELD LANE

SILVERCRAIG'S LAND, FOOT OF SALTMARKET

TOWN RESIDENCE OF THE LATE KIRKMAN FINLAY ESQ QUEEN STREET

OLD TOWN RESIDENCE OF CAMPBELL OF BLYTHSWOOD, FREDGE-AT

variety, and seem, as regards their approaches and other particulars, to have been very ingeniously constructed for securing as great an amount of irregularity and inconvenience as could well be devised. Here may still be seen some remains of the semi-wooden erections of the seventeenth century—once, it may be, pleasant enough to look upon, albeit somewhat closely wedged together; but now by no means likely to attract the steps of many visitors into the degraded regions where they stand.

SILVERCRAIGS' LAND, &c.

THE first in point of antiquity of the buildings represented in the opposite plate, is that which was known as SILVERCRAIGS' LAND, and which stood till within the last seventeen or eighteen years, on the east side of the Saltmarket, directly opposite to the opening of the Bridgegate. We have every reason to believe that this house was built about two centuries ago, by Robert Campbell of Silvercraigs,* who married a daughter of James Stewart of Floak, and to whose son it belonged in 1664—this opinion indeed is, it may be said, confirmed, by knowing that, conspicuous on its front, were placed—surmounted by the national arms—two sculptured shields, one of which bore the *gyron* quarterings of the family of Argyll, and the other the cognizances of the houses of Campbell and Stewart, *party per pale*.†

* M'Ure refers to him as "of Elie, thereafter of Silvercraigs." From the title deeds and other documents connected with this building and its early occupants—with extracts from which we have been most kindly favoured by the gentleman in whose possession they now are—we find that the nuptials of *Robert Campbell, eldest son of Colin Campbell, Merchant Burgess of Glasgow, and Mary Stewart, second daughter of James Stewart of Floak*, had been solemnised in 1623; their marriage contract is dated 12 February in that year. The father, *Colin Campbell*, (then styled *senior*), was provost of Glasgow in 1636; he had a second son, *Colin Campbell of Blythswood*, who held the same office in 1660.—The *Robert Campbell of Silvercraigs*, above referred to, had a son *Robert*, who, in 1661, likewise married a lady of the name of Stewart—*Lillias, daughter of James Stewart of Christwell*, (M'Ure has it *Chryswell*), and the house in question descended to him by inheritance.

† Vide *Literary Rambler*, 1832, p. 26.—Some pages back we stated that we felt doubtful as to the exact spot where the "Barras Yett" had stood. We find by a description of the property, drawn up in 1661, that Silvercraigs' Land was then situated "*elose or near to the South Port, commonly called the Barras.*"

The following brief history of the building, after it had passed out of the possession of the Campbells of Silvercraigs, may be thought worthy of notice:—We find that in 1703 it belonged to *Walter Scott, brother to the Laird of Roxburn;* in 1710, to *Sir Robert Pollock of Pollock;* in 1714, to *Alexander Hamilton, of Cranskeeth or Grange;* in 1716, to *James Montgomerie of Perston, late baillie of Glasgow;* in 1734, to *Patrick Montgomerie, his heir;* in 1758, to *the Partners of the United Companies of the Wester and King-Street Sugar Houses;* in 1766, to *Archibald MacGilchrist, Town Clerk of Glasgow*; in 1781, to *Donald MacGilchrist, his son;* and in 1803, to *Mrs. Catherine MacGilchrist, Spouse of the Rev. Dr. Balfour, one of the Ministers of Glasgow, and others, as heirs portioners of the said Donald MacGilchrist, their brother.*

We may remark, that in the opinion of the gentleman possessed of the title deeds, &c. referred to, the house represented in the plate was the same with that mentioned in an instrument of seisine, dated shortly after Mr. Robert Campbell's marriage in 1623. We rather incline to think, however, that the building referred to in that document had been one of older date; removed by Mr. Campbell sometime after his nuptials, to make way for the probably more handsome and more commodious mansion in which Cromwell afterwards took up his abode. The arms sculptured upon it imply that it was erected after his marriage.

For a long time prior to its demolition, this venerable mansion formed, it may be said, one of the minor *lions* of the city, owing to the current tradition of its having been occupied by Cromwell during his visits to Glasgow in 1650 and 1651. Within its principal apartment the successful general of the Commonwealth received, it is averred, his civil and military visitors, and likewise that assemblage of the clergy whom he summoned before him to answer for the manner in which he had been assailed from the pulpit—"a meeting," says Baillie, one of the party, "which was put on us that we could not decline it." It is probable that the laird of Silvercraigs found Oliver not a bad tenant, although the usual quiet and privacy of his residence must have been somewhat seriously interfered with while the future Protector made himself at home in "chamber and hall"—the scabbards of his orderlies ever and anon clanking in lobby and on staircase, and his buff-jerkined body-guard sauntering about the court-yard behind, or resting upon their halberts before the entrance archway. At that period many a passer-by may have glanced up at the windows of Silvercraigs' Land, with feelings of mingled curiosity and bitterness towards its celebrated occupant; in after years, the feeling with which the eye rested upon the old mansion was one of curiosity alone—as imagination endeavoured to recall a picture of the scenes which had passed within and around its walls when Cromwell, Thurloe, Monk, Zachary Boyd, Baillie, Gillespie, and other noted individuals, had figured upon the stage. To the particulars appended in the notes in the preceding page we have nothing of any interest to add with regard to this now all but forgotten building.

The former Town Residence of the Campbells of Blythswood, is situated on the south side of the Bridgegate, not far from its western extremity, and has apparently been erected at different periods, the one half presenting a somewhat more florid appearance than the other.* To judge by the style of architecture exhibited in both divisions, we should suppose it to have been built at about the same time as the old house in Stockwell Street referred to at page 55, and that in the Gallowgate mentioned at page 81; this would refer the date of its erection to the era of Charles the Second.† The building, which had a large garden behind, contined to be occupied by the proprietors of Blythswood until the latter part of last century; and was sold by the last of them who possessed it in 1802.

The next illustration affords a view of the house in which the celebrated James Watt for some time resided, while engaged in planning the various improvements which he effected on the Steam-Engine. The reader may remember that it was during the period when Mr. Watt occupied, as a philosophical instrument maker, a

* The whole range however, had been connected internally.

† Probably enough, it may have been built by Colin Campbell of Blythswood, brother of Robert Campbell of Silvercraigs, and provost of the city in 1660.

About twenty years ago, this old mansion was occupied as a tavern or eating-house, noted for its excellence in the steaming dainties of "monieplies and king's hood."

shop in the Saltmarket, in 1763, that Professor Anderson sent him a model of Newcomen's Engine, to have some repairs made upon it, and that it was from the ideas awakened in his mind by the examination of that piece of machinery, that his inventive genius was directed into the channel which it eventually followed with so much success. Soon after the above occurrence, having procured an apartment in the Pottery or Delft-work, near the Broomielaw, he there shut himself up with a single assistant, earnestly to pursue his researches;* and it was while engaged upon them—devoting his attention to an object that was to be of such vast importance to the human race—that he had his residence in the house represented in the plate. We are not certain, indeed, but that his experiments were carried on in a part of the building itself; at all events that this was the house he lived in is a fact that, we believe, cannot be disputed. It is situated in what is called Delftfield Lane—a narrow passage, parallel with, and a short distance to the west of York Street, which is now being converted into a spacious thoroughfare.

The late Kirkman Finlay's Residence in Queen Street has but recently yielded to the progress of change, to make way for the new buildings of the National Bank. This house was built—probably about the year 1775—by Mr. James Ritchie, a West India merchant of considerable eminence, and one of the class of Tobacco or Sugar "Lords," who were accustomed to carry their heads, as it is expressed, so high above those of their fellow citizens.† It must for a long time have been one of the handsomest mansions in the city, and was built in the prevailing style of the earlier decades of the reign of George the Third, already alluded to—a style which, in the opinion of many, may be considered as anything but surpassed in elegance by that which prevails among the better class of self-contained city edifices or suburban villas, in the year of grace 1847.

It was purchased from Mr. Ritchie by the late Mr. Kirkman Finlay, between thirty and forty years ago, and was occupied by him as his town residence till, we believe, the period of his death in 1842.

* Cleland, *Enumeration*, &c., 1832, p. 145.

† In M'Arthur's Plan of the City, published in 1778, to be afterwards mentioned, Mr. Ritchie's mansion forms one of the eight then existing on the west side of Queen Street.

THE OLD BRIDGE.

IN previous references to this once famous structure—"the Great Bridge of Glasgow," *Magnus Pons trans Cludam*, we adopted the common opinion of its having been erected about the year 1345, by the then Bishop of the diocese, William Rae, or Raa; and although this opinion rests, we believe, upon no testimony more ancient than the statements of M'Ure, and Keith the historian of the Scottish Bishops, we do not see that there exists any sufficient reason for controverting it—however much we might desire, with the learned editor of the Chartulary of Glasgow, that the evidence of the fact was somewhat better supported.*

This William Rae, who succeeded John de Lindesay as Bishop about the year 1335, and who died in 1367, had the misfortune to live in very unsettled times; but although the general fortunes of the Scottish monarchy may have materially suffered from the effects of the disastrous battles at Duplin and Halidon Hill, it would perhaps be too much to say that the see of Glasgow had, in consequence, become so much impoverished, that the probability is slight of its chief dignitary having had it in his power, by the year 1345, to erect such an edifice as was the first stone bridge of Glasgow.† Of this prelate's life very little is known, and the annals of the diocese present almost an entire blank during the whole reign of David the Second;‡ it is not, in consequence, at all surprising, that we have no very ancient authority for saying that he really was the originator of the structure; but it tells somewhat in favour of the prevailing opinion, that no mention of its erection is to be found in connection with the more fully detailed transactions of the bishops who were his successors.

The earliest notice of the Old Bridge that we have happened to meet with, occurs in a document, dated in 1487, in which it is mentioned that the house and garden of John "Leiche," fisherman, were situated in the street leading to the Glasgow Bridge —*ad Pontem Glasguensem.*§ From that period downwards it is frequently alluded to—alike in the muniments of the Collegiate Church of St. Mary and St. Anne, in those of the Dominican Friars, and in the records of the city—but seldom in a way to require any particular notice.

The original fabric consisted, we are told, of eight arches, and was only twelve feet in width.‖ It seems to have borne some resemblance to the antique fabric which

* Registrum Episcopatus, Glasg. pref. p. xxxix.

† We use the expression *was*, as the Old Bridge has, within the last seventy years, been so much widened, and otherwise improved, as to present a very different appearance from that which it originally bore.

‡ In the appendix to the *Maitland Club Volume* containing the muniments of the Friars Preachers, &c., there is given a legal document, dated 1440, from which it appears that some time previous, one Thomas Raa had devised certain heritable property to the Cathedral Church of Glasgow, "pro anniuersario bone memorie dominj Willelmj Raa quondam episcopi Glasguensis," (p. 251-2.)

§ *Munimenta Fratrum Ord. Predicat, p.* 200. ‖ Cleland's *Enumeration*, &c., 1832, p. 174.

still spans the Forth under the guns of Stirling Castle; and a tolerable idea of its appearance may be formed by a reference to the first plate of our series—Slezer's view from the South. The earliest alteration attempted upon this boast of the olden city, was made in the year 1777, when an addition, ten feet in width, was made to it upon the east side, two of the arches at the north end being at the same time built up.* The oldest section, therefore, is that which faces down the river; and to any one standing beneath the arches, the line of demarcation between it and the modern masonry is perfectly apparent. The second, and, as it may be termed, the final improvement, was planned by the celebrated Telford, and resulted in the formation, in 1820–21, of the footpaths which project upon either side, resting upon supports of iron. The next change will, no doubt, be that destined to supplant all that has been done, and to replace the old, but far from worn-out structure, with one which may prove in better keeping with the requirements of the nineteenth century, but which, as things now-a-days go, may very possibly never see the time when it may boast of an antiquity so respectable as that which distinguished its predecessor.

Although the Old Bridge has, according to general belief, witnessed the passage of some five hundred years with the many changes which have followed in their train, still its annals are few; and however the elements of a History may from time to time have directed their gleams around it, they have all vanished like the meteor streamers of the North, leaving the "story" of the venerable structure—the recollections of its most interesting associations, fairly wrapped in the shadow of night. There have been none, indeed, to chronicle any such occurrences; but, doubtless, many a devotional—many a warlike—many a regal cavalcade has been seen to defile across its road-way in the times that are gone; when it formed the principal means of communication with the western counties, and when prince as well as peasant availed themselves of the accommodation it afforded.

As previously mentioned, adjoining to its northern extremity, stood the "Brig Port," which appears to have in general been pretty carefully guarded. The following are a few of the notices bearing reference to the subject before us, which have been culled from the Burgh Records:—In 1647, the sum of 180 merks was deducted, we learn, from the rental payable by the tacksman of the bridge for the year 1645, in consequence of the losses he had sustained by the "publict enemies"—doubtless, the followers of Leslie or Montrose.† In the following year, the treasurer was ordained to pay him one hundred pounds (Scots), owing to a similar defalcation of revenue, occasioned by the presence of the "pestilence" in the city.‡ Under date of 1657, the "table of the bridge customes" is mentioned—a table which "Androw Andersoune" had then engaged to print.§ On the 6th July 1671, it was agreed on by the authorities that the southern arch of the bridge should be taken down, "for eschewing of

* *Annals*, 1816, i. 35. † *Memorabilia*, p. 163. ‡ *Ibid.* p. 167. § *Ibid.* p. 185.

danger, seeing its not lyklie to stand."* M'Ure states, to give his own words, that the bridge "continued entire till the year 1671, that the southermost arch fell, (but was quickly rear'd up upon the charges of the community)." "There was," he adds, "much of the care of Providence observed with regard to the fall of that arch; for it was the seventh of July, the very day of Glasgow Fair, and about twelve of the clock, and though hundreds, yea, I may venture to say thousands, had pass'd and repass'd, both of horse and foot, yet not one single person got the least harm."—Singular, that the very day previous, the said arch should have been considered so unsafe as to be condemned by the authorities, and yet that the lives of "thousands" should have been so trifled with, as this author would lead us to believe!—It may finally be observed, as indicative of the value of the produce brought into the city from the southern districts, during the reign of James the Sixth, that, in 1590, the "casualities and costumes of the brig" were let by auction, for the then current year, at a rental of eighty merks Scots.

PART OF ARGYLE STREET IN 1794.

BEFORE the removal, in the year 1751, of the West Port—one of the principal entrances to the city, which stood near the site of the present Black Bull Inn—the line of Argyle Street was a common country road, leading to the mills at Partick, and to the ancient burgh of Dumbarton. On either side, and extending westward to the large brewing establishment situated at Grahamstown, were scattered a number of humble thatched cottages, to each of which were generally attached "a malt-barn," and other out-houses. These cottages were chiefly occupied by "maltmen," who produced upon a small scale a species of home-brewed beer, which would appear to have been a general favourite with the inhabitants. This ale—prepared the one day and delivered next morning at the houses of the citizens—was, while tea and coffee were yet but little known, the ordinary breakfast beverage of all classes of the community, and its preparation, as may be believed, gave employment to a considerable number of hands.

Adjoining to the gateway, the buildings were probably numerous, and may have formed for some distance an almost continuous, but mean-looking, street. The

* *Ibid.* p. 292.

NORTH SIDE_FROM THE EAST OF MILLER STREET, TO THE WEST OF QUEEN STREET

COW LOAN, THE PRESENT QUEEN STREET.

MILLER STREET.

PORTIONS OF ARGYLL STREET IN 1794.

Allan & Ferguson lith.

MAXWELL ST

37 Argyll Street.

SOUTH SIDE_FROM THE WEST OF TURNER'S COURT, TO THE EAST OF ST ENOCH SQUARE.

minutes of the Town Council enable us, in several instances, to form an idea of what must have been the appearance of this locality a century or two ago. In 1655, for example, so great a quantity of rubbish had been accumulated by the side of the way without the West Port, that it "had fallen in the guitter and stoppit the current of the water, so that sundrie people on the northe syde of the Trongait were forcit to mak brige stones for entrie to their houssis." Again, in 1666, the authorities were called upon to interfere, in consequence of "divers persones," residing between Hutchesons' Hospital and "St. Tenowe's" burn, having taken the liberty of forming little dungsteads in front of their several holdings, by heaping up straw and other refuse in the very line of the water-course that had then been recently "levelled and maid straight."* From such notices, and from the circumstance that the deep, dirty road—for such it must previously have been—was, in the year 1662, directed to be causewayed from the West Port to St. Enoch's burn, we may be certain that the now leading thoroughfare formed in earlier times anything but an inviting approach to the city.

On the removal of the gateway, however, a gradual improvement began to take place, and in the course of a few years several handsome houses were erected to the west of where it stood. Amongst these, it may be mentioned, was the elegant residence of Provost John Murdoch, built by him in 1757, and now occupied as the Buck's Head Inn. The adjoining building to the eastward of it, of which the upper portion alone retains the traces of better days, was erected at the same time by Mr. Colin Dunlop, who, at a subsequent period, likewise became chief magistrate of the city. In 1756, Virginia Street was opened up, and four years afterwards arose at its south-east corner the existing Black Bull Hotel, erected by the Glasgow Highland Society; while, about the year 1773, a respectable-looking dwelling-house was built by Mr. John Miller of Westertown, immediately opposite to Provost Murdoch's more imposing mansion, and "two riggs of land lying in that croft called Longcroft," were devoted to the use of the public, as the future area of Miller Street.

As years rolled on, many other buildings of a greatly superior class to any that had previously existed there, began to line the opposite sides of Argyle Street; still the thatched cottages, malt kilns, and such like relics of a simpler time, were, in various quarters, very tenacious of their hold, and long continued to meet the eye of the stranger, in curious contrast with the aristocratic appearance of the more recent structures; one or two of them may be observed in the plate, as they yet lingered, about fifty years ago, in close proximity to some of the proudest abodes in the city. To go over the view in detail: the first subject to the right of its upper division, we find referred to, in a deed executed by Mr. Miller of Westertown, as the "kiln of the deceased John Simpson," the building formed three sides of a quadrangle

* *Memorabilia*, pp. 177 and 262.

receding from the line of street, part of which was latterly occupied by a spirit-dealer. Next to it is the house erected on the site of a similar "kiln and yard," by the said Mr. Miller, as formerly mentioned; it was taken down only a few years ago, having been at one time partially occupied by a noted keeper of sedan chairs, the entry to whose premises—a cellar fronting Argyle Street—was wont to be flanked on either side by several of those once favourite vehicles of locomotion. The opening to Miller Street succeeds—a street long regarded as a great ornament to the city, but which would certainly have had a still better appearance, had its worthy projector been liberal enough to cast a third "rigg" of his field into the measure of its width. Adjoining to Miller Street, on the west, appears a tall building, comparatively modern; and immediately beside it, the eye rests on an humble retiring little cottage, that seems to shrink back—with something of respect—from amid the exalted society in which it is found. This was another of the primitive-looking buildings which had stood by the wayside in the vicinity of the West Port, and was, about the period when the view was taken, occupied, we are told, as a school. The handsome structure which stood near it, at the east corner of Queen Street, was built by a gentleman of the name of M'Call, a merchant in Glasgow—probably about the year 1777, when the formation of Queen Street was begun. From some peculiarity in the stone with which it was constructed, this fine-looking house became latterly very dark, indeed, almost black in its appearance. It was demolished in the early part of the present century, to make way for the plain lofty pile now standing in its place. To the left of the plate may be seen the last of some farm buildings, which formerly stood at the southern termination of Queen Street; this would seem to have been a barn or malt-kiln, and it long maintained its ground, in strangely incongruous keeping with the various edifices near it.*

The line of Queen Street—originally known as the "Cow Loan"—was, prior to the year 1777, a narrow country lane bounded by hedges, through which the common herdsman of the burgh† was accustomed to drive the cattle of the citizens on their way to the pastures beyond the present Dundas Street. This road is more than once referred to in the minutes of the Town Council. It was by it, as previously remarked, that Cromwell and his soldiers entered the city, when obliged to make a detour in order to avoid a danger, supposed to lurk in the neighbourhood of the Bishop's Palace. It seems to have been, in fact, the only approach from the

* A writer in the *Glasgow Herald* of October 18, 1843 says, of the ground on which this stood, that the proprietor held it at three guineas the square yard—a price considered so outrageously absurd, that it became a standing joke throughout the city. The proprietor, however, stuck to his demand for upwards of twenty years, and at last obtained it from Bailie Morrison, builder, who erected the present large corner tenement.

† Of this useful functionary a farewell relic remains in existence, in the shape of the horn with which he was accustomed to summon the thrifty housewives to turn out their cattle, and at the sound of which his matinly charge was wont to gather force as it went along.

north-west; and, in seasons of disturbance, was defended by trenches formed in its neighbourhood. This was especially the case during the rebellion of 1715, when we find the authorities to have been very active in preparing for the "safe-keeping" of the town; and, among other disbursements, to have paid out forty-two pounds Scots as the price of timber supplied for making gates to the trenches at "Glasshouse, Cowloan, and St. Tennoch's Bridge." The "Great Argyll" himself visited Glasgow at the time, and personally inspected the doings of the inhabitants in the important matter of fortifying the city.

The lower division of the plate exhibits the aspect, in 1794, of that portion of the south side of Argyle Street which extends from about Turner's Court to St. Enoch's Square. Many of the buildings there represented are still in existence, although in general their appearance has been greatly altered by the conversion of the basement storeys into shops or warehouses, in accordance with the taste and requirements of a more recent age. Among the houses in the line deserving of particular notice, is the building seen towards the left of the view, retiring from the line of street, and pinnacled with vases. This was, we are given to understand, the villa of Mr. Rae Crawford of Milton, who, when he found the extending city gaining upon his retreat, removed to a distance which he considered a perfectly secure one, and reared a second suburban residence at what is now the east corner of Brown Street, Anderston. The two buildings adjoining were, to judge by their appearance, erected in the time of Queen Anne or of George the First; and must, in their day, have been looked upon as far from insignificant structures. The one at the opposite corner of Maxwell Street, is said to have been originally occupied as the Glasgow Merchant Bank. The thatched house adjoining, and facing the pump-well, was for a considerable period somewhat celebrated as a tavern, much frequented by farmers, dealers in horses, &c. The extensive range on the right, known as Horne's Court, still holds its ground, and was built, we believe, in 1766. It may here be observed that Maxwell Street was originally a lane, leading to considerable workshops belonging to a Mr. Maxwell, coppersmith. A principal article of his manufacture were the stills made use of in the West India plantations—a branch of trade which has now in a great measure deserted Glasgow, to find a home on the banks of the Mersey.

The views we have just referred to do not carry us back to a period very remote from the present, and many a one still in the hale descent of life, may find no difficulty in recalling the actual features of what the limner's art has here endeavoured to perpetuate. To the majority of the community, however, the subjects of the drawings cannot fail to prove curious and *new*, although, perhaps—owing to the gigantic strides of passing change—there never was a time when the evidences of former progress were calculated to make less impression upon the mind than that which is now upon the wing.

ARGYLL STREET IN 1793,

(North Side, from Queen Street to Grahamston.)

THE two views which next come under notice, form when united, what may be termed a continuation of the first of the preceding pair—exhibiting the line of buildings westward, from about the point at which it terminates, to near the lower end of the present Hope Street.

Glancing along the picture, from the right of the lower division, we have first the existing house in which is formed the entrance to the Argyll Arcade, and next to it a somewhat capacious malt barn, taken down about fifty years ago, to be replaced by the buildings of Morrison's Court. Adjoining to this barn, stands one of the handsome mansions of the mercantile aristocracy, built about the period of the American War;* and immediately beside it is the edifice which still occupies, but under a changed appearance, the south-east corner of Buchanan Street; this, we have been informed, was erected by tontine subscription, to be occupied as an Inn. Opposite to it is part of a small house, one half of which had been removed to permit of the formation of Buchanan Street in 1780; beside it may be observed the handsome residence of Mr. John Gordon, a West India merchant; and, in singular contrast, to the west of it, an old thatched malt barn and kiln; this, we believe, was the last to disappear of the thatched buildings at one time common on the line of Argyll Street, and continued in existence till about twenty years ago. On the opposite side of the narrow lane now called Mitchell Street are a few small houses, requiring no particular notice.

The upper division of the plate continues the line from what is now the opening of Union Street;—in the first place, with what appear to be workshops, or a second malt barn, and the tall plain building still standing at the corner of Alston Street—formerly called "Playhouse Close," from the circumstance of its having led to the first theatre erected in Glasgow. The house was built by subscription, at a period when public opinion ran high against theatrical amusements, and when for some time no one could be found bold enough to dispose of ground for its site; this, however, was at length procured from Mr. Miller of Westertown, and the building was completed in the spring of 1764. It was opened by Mrs. Bellamy, and other performers, when part of the audience set fire to the stage, destroying all the scenery and mechanism. When subsequently restored, the performances were allowed to proceed; but the lessee met with no great success. In April 1782 a second fire broke out in the

* Taken down by Mr. George Douglas, in 1828 or 1829, to make way for the handsome building he subsequently erected on the spot—the first we believe in Glasgow, which possessed windows of plate glass.

Allan & Ferguson sc.

VIEW OF THE BROOMIELAW IN THE YEAR 1802

building, which left no part of it standing but the blackened walls: these being afterwards roofed in, the premises were fitted up as a granary, and as such it still remains.* The upper part of it may be observed in the plate, rising beyond some two-storey houses which front the street. The drawing presents us with no other objects worthy of remark, with the exception perhaps of the large brewing establishment which terminates the buildings on the west, and which was taken down about the period when Hope Street began to be formed. Beyond this spot the road to Anderston was formerly bordered by a row of large elm trees, the adjoining grounds on the north being occupied as market gardens.†

THE BROOMIELAW IN 1802.

FROM the era to which our former view of the Broomielaw may be referred, down to the commencement of the present century, the improvements effected on the harbour itself were not of an important nature, although much had been attempted, by deepening the bed and confining the flow of the river, to improve the means of access to its quays. Nevertheless, the period of forty years had not elapsed, without producing many changes in the appearance of the locality, such as those caused by the construction of the handsome bridge, with its rusticated arches and chequered parapet—completed in 1773;‡ the formation of Jamaica Street, and the erection, on a part of the Windmill Croft, of the row of dwelling-houses known as Clyde Buildings. The quay had besides been lengthened in 1792, to the extent of from three to four hundred feet,§ and a few additional houses had been erected in its vicinity; still, it must be evident, that no very great advance could at that period have been made in removing the many obstructions which impeded the navigation of the stream, when we know that, even in the year 1806 it was regarded as an important event, that a schooner of 150 tons burthen was enabled to reach the Broomielaw.‖

Many of our readers may have a perfect recollection of the scene depicted in the

* *Vide* Cleland's *Enumeration, &c.* 1832, p. 177.

† We must here acknowledge our obligations to Mr. John Hart, not only for the originals of these views, but for much curious information with regard to the city in *former times.*

‡ This bridge was taken down in 1832. § *Cleland's Annals,* I. 292. ‖ *Ibid. ibid.*

plate, where the line of the harbour is seen extending only about as far down as Oswald Street, with the sloping bank below, on which it was usual for small boats to be hauled up. A greater number still must be able to recall the time when, on the south side, for some way downwards from the bridge, all was a green meadow as far as the present centre of the stream—this having been the case indeed, till within the last twenty-two years. It is unnecessary to point to the contrast between the scene represented in the picture and that to be observed in the same locality at the present day; this will suggest itself to every one who may happen to bestow a glance upon the drawing before us. We have all witnessed what the last twenty years have effected there;—Who will undertake to foretell the changes of the next?

RUINS OF THE THEATRE ROYAL, QUEEN STREET, &c.

IT was a dull wintry day, the 10th of January 1829. Comparatively few passengers were to be seen in Queen Street or its vicinity; and their breakfast hour being past, the workmen had returned to the business of dismantling what had been the Royal Bank, preparatory to its conversion into the front part of the present Exchange, when the attention of a few individuals was suddenly attracted to what seemed a light misty vapour ascending from the lofty roof of the Theatre Royal. By rapid degrees this assumed the unmistakeable appearance of smoke—becoming each successive minute more dense and black, until first one lurid jet of fire, and then another flickered amid the darkness, to be almost instantly succeeded by one general outburst of flame. It soon became pretty evident indeed, that this Temple of the "Twin Muses" was threatened by the most serious of all theatrical calamities; and with winged speed did the intelligence spread over the city, as the fire-engines were dragged along in rapid succession to the spot—each attended by its crowd of followers, hastening with breathless speed to swell the general mass, assembled at every point from which a view of the burning edifice could be obtained—

> "——— the mighty roast, the mighty stew to see,
> As if the whole were but to them, a Brentford jubilee."

The Fire Brigade put forth, of course, on this occasion its mightiest strength; the measured strokes of the engine-men were heard without cessation; the water carts were hurried from place to place, with even a more than usual disregard of life and limb; the snake-like hose hissed in fifty different quarters, as they twisted along

[illegible]

Allan & Ferguson [illegible]

CHARLIE'S STABLES, SOUTH SIDE OF TRONGATE, EAST OF STOCKWELL STREET

TAKEN DOWN IN 1838

the streets, and scarlet-collared policemen looked on in unprecedented numbers—but, alas! the devouring element, as the newspapers have it, had resolved upon enjoying a satisfactory feast, and was not to be thwarted by the mightiest resistance that could be offered, so that in the course of a few hours this spacious structure was converted into the somewhat picturesque ruin which meets the eye in the drawing before us.

There may be many among the play-goers of former times who yet retain a sort of friendly remembrance of the Theatre in Queen Street, coupled with many a pleasant retrospect of evenings spent within its walls, when the impassioned grandeur of Siddons, the fire of Kean, the grace of Stephens or of Helen Tree, the humour of Mathews, and the drollery of Boddie (a name perhaps well nigh forgotten), had each in turn contributed to "charm the passing hour." And if it so be that any of our readers should happen to recall to mind the occasional visit paid to it in boyish days—when every thought and feeling were wrapt in the enjoyment of the moment, and when all within the Rubicon of the ticket lobby seemed *couleur de rose*—their recollections of the long-demolished edifice and its once dazzling attractions may even still perhaps assume a tinge of passing light, caught from the all-sunny experiences of times gone by. Who among such but must well remember the dimly-lighted entrance, passed with "expectation high," the semicircular staircase, ascended with buoyant steps to reach the favoured regions of the boxes, or that cavernous sort of approach pursued with no less glee, which led to the more humble benches of the pit. And as to the interior itself, what pen can ever describe the engrossing delight of the moment, when the wished-for seat was attained, and, amid the full burst of the orchestra, the eye had leisure to wander over the exciting scene of a house—crowded from the gallery immediately under the painted region of clouds and cupids, to the brilliant circle which approached the stage on either side, close to that line of shaded lights whose reflected brilliance fell upon the gorgeous drapery of the curtain that was, in its ascent, to throw open the gates, as it were, of fairyland.

To all who may happen to bestow a thought upon reminiscences such as these, there will perhaps some particular occasions start to mind, when the rising of that mass of crimson and gold became the precursor of more than ordinary enjoyment, and when the interest in all that it unveiled was carried to a more than common height—step by step, it may be said, with every successive occasion which beheld the progress of the stage romance checked by the fall of that fine drop-scene—the panorama of the Clyde, with its glorious expanse of scenery, as visible from Dalnotter Hill, the fine umbrageous foreground, the wide expanse of the river, the familiar rock of Dumbarton, and the distant mountains of Argyll. To one, it may be perchance in connection with the dark story of the Moor or with that of the "murdered Duncan" that the mind awakes most vividly to a recollection of the old Theatre and its once

engrossing attractions. To another, the gorgeous spectacle of "Alladin" or that of the "Forty Thieves," may supply the light which still radiates brightest in the distant vista of play-going experience. Some will bethink them of the unmeasured enjoyment with which they witnessed for the first time the oddities of that prince of tutors, Dr. O'Toole, the humours of the portly Falstaff, or the merry antics of the mercurial Harlequin. Others will have all-prominent in view, the glorious feats of the circle—the dazzling horsemanship of Ducrow. Every one, in short, not yet superior to the occasional "weakness" of bestowing a thought upon the trivialities of the past, will possibly find, in a glance at these well-remembered ruins, not a little to recall—

"Thoughts of the younger life and happier day."

The drama, as is well known, has never been cherished in Glasgow with any peculiar care. About the beginning of the present century, however, a number of influential parties began to think that in this respect there was a revolution in progress, and believing that the taste for theatrical amusements was rapidly on the increase among the citizens, they came to the resolution of doing all that lay in their power to foster its development, and to meet the demands which it was likely to occasion, by providing such superior accommodation, both for actor and audience, as would at once enable this spirited city to take a prominent place among those which held forth the wreath of patronage to the eye of histrionic fame. In 1802 a joint-stock subscription was accordingly entered into for the purpose, and in 1805 the house in Queen Street was completed at an expense of £18,500.*

Of this building the city had, certainly, great reason to be proud. In architectural appearance, in size, in the general arrangements of the interior, and in the quality of its scenery and decorations, it had not a rival beyond the bounds of the metropolis. But alas! it too soon became apparent that the proprietors had calculated over-blindly upon the support of the public; and it was ere long sufficiently evident that neither the inducements of a splendid house, nor the presence of superior talent on its stage, could do aught to convert the citizens of Glasgow into a play-going people. From £1200 a-year, the rental was reduced by rapid steps to a third of that sum, and yet scarcely a single lessee appears to have succeeded in conducting the management without suffering a loss. In 1814 it was sold for £5000, to liquidate a debt contracted on the security of the building; and thus the handsome Theatre passed from the possession of the original proprietors—leaving them to regard it in the light of a stately cenotaph reared over the entombed ashes of their twenty-five pound shares.

After its destruction in 1829, the ruins of the edifice remained standing for a considerable period as we see them in the plate, and were at length taken down to

* The previous Theatre was in Dunlop Street, and forms part of the building still existing there.

Fac Simile of a Map which appeared in the Glasgow Magazine of 1783

be replaced by the dull-looking walls of the building which now occupies their site, immediately adjoining to what forms the north-east corner of Exchange Square.

To the left of the view is seen what was once the most elegant private residence in the city; and for an equal to which we shall in vain look at the present day. It was built about the year 1777, by Mr. Cunningham,* a Virginia merchant who, at the commencement of the American War, acquired a large fortune by a successful speculation in tobacco. It subsequently, as we need scarcely repeat, was occupied as the Royal Bank, and now partially exists in the front portion of the Exchange—every vestige of its external walls, however, being concealed by the masonry of the more recent structure. At the period when our view was taken the fine double staircase had been already removed, and the building was in other respects somewhat dismantled.

Of Charlie's Stables all that we can say is, that the buildings which bore the name were removed some eight or ten years ago from the south side of the Trongate, nearly opposite to Hutcheson Street; and that they are stated to have acquired this designation from the circumstance of the horses belonging to the Young Chevalier having been stabled in the out-houses attached to them, during the time he resided in the mansion of Mr. Campbell of Shawfield, situated at the lower end of the present Glassford Street.

THE PLAN OF GLASGOW.

THE first general Plan of the City ever published was that, we believe, engraved in 1778, from a survey made by Mr. John M'Arthur.† The fac-simile which accompanies the present volume is taken from a second specimen of topography,

* It is laid down in M'Arthur's Map of 1778, and is said to have cost its proprietor £10,000.

† About ten years prior to this, a part of the city, between the College and the Old Bridge, had been surveyed, in consequence of a law-plea in which the magistrates were involved. This survey was prepared, we believe, for private distribution, in 1768 or 1769. The following is the title it bears:—"A plan of Part of ye City of Glasgow, and course of the Burn Molendinar, leading to the Saw Mill erected by William Fleming, wright in Glasgow, in 1750 and 1751, and Set agoeing in 1752, Demolished by the Magistrates of Glasgow on the 23 June 1764, for which he then Commenced a process against the said Magistrates before the Court of Session, and in Consequence of a final Judgement given on the 9 July 1768, the Magistrates paid the pursuer on the 18 Novr following £610 1*s.* 4*d.* Sterling, and were also Obliged to relieve him of the expense of extracting the decreet." The saw-mill in question was erected across the Molendinar Burn, about one hundred yards above its junction with the Clyde.

issued some five years later, upon a diminished scale; but as there appears, on comparison, to be very little difference between the two originals, the one here annexed may be almost regarded as a copy of M'Arthur's plan.

An old map, like an old almanack, is seldom thought worthy of any particular notice; still, there is something in this record of the former extent and bearings of the city which, for the present, may entitle it perhaps to be looked upon as forming an exception to the rule. It does not indeed carry us back to a very remote period of our civic existence; but it possesses, nevertheless, a considerable degree of interest—enabling us, as it does, to judge at a glance of the great activities which have been at work during the last seventy years in promoting the extension of the city, and in conveying the grasp of this second Tyre over hill and plain to the southward and the west.

A cursory inspection of this little plan will be sufficient to afford an idea of what was the extent of the city at the close of the American War—when the days of a former prosperity appeared to have passed away, and when, as yet, the star of a new hope had scarcely begun to emerge from that heavy cloud which had settled over the lost *el-dorado* of the Virginia plantations.

At the western extremity of the town is the suburb of Grahamston and the straggling wood-yards and workshops about the Broomielaw; the upper part of Jamaica Street—begun to be formed about the year 1760—appears in the map, flanked by the same buildings as at present; nearer the Bridge, however, there is much vacant ground to be seen, a part of which then belonged to the community. In St. Enoch Square the former church and present spire had been raised, but as yet none of the now existing houses occupied the sites, awaiting them there, upon a piece of waste ground which likewise appertained to the public—probably as former church property attached to the ancient chapel of St. Tenew. Several buildings appear encroaching upon the narrowed limits of the Dovecote Green, and the line of West Clyde Street is to be seen laid down along it—confining all that was to remain of the old "Viridarium" into a narrow strip of verdure between that new thoroughfare and the river. Between Jamaica and Stockwell Streets, the only passage parallel to them is St. Enoch's Wynd—the "Vennelam" of ancient documents—which even in 1783 had been densely built upon; below it is a very extensive rope work; and to the north-east of that long range of building there appears a considerable open space, destined some years later to be occupied by the houses of Maxwell and Dunlop Streets.

On the opposite side of the main artery of the city is seen Buchanan Street, then recently laid off, and with only one solitary edifice standing upon its line. This was a mansion with detached wings, belonging to a gentleman of the name of Johnstone; in front of it runs St. Enoch's burn, and did not the ornamental title of the plan interfere, we might have observed in its place the villa of Enoch

RD -7.6

Bank, which formerly stood, with its garden enclosures, near the spot now occupied by St. Mary's Chapel. Queen Street appears lined, especially on the west side, with several, of what might sixty years ago have been termed, suburban villas, the principal of which was the elegant residence of Mr. Cunningham, referred to in our notice of the old Theatre Royal. The once handsome buildings of Miller Street, with their garden plots behind, were then in all the freshness of existence; and those of Virginia Street—in general of a more unpretending appearance—were terminated on the north by a large open space, in front of the capacious edifice of Mr. Speirs of Elderslie. The only buildings of any consequence to be observed in Ingram Street, at the date of the plan, were the Gaelic Chapel, near its western extremity, and the large quadrangular tape manufactory, situated at the corner of what is now John Street, a part of which still exists immediately adjoining to Hutchesons' Hospital.

Opposite to this factory are the garden grounds now occupied by Wilson Street, &c., and behind it lies what formed at one period a part of the Pavilion Croft. In 1778 this was cultivated chiefly, we believe, by market gardeners, and such was still the case perhaps in 1783, although it had by that time been fixed upon as the site of several new streets. From the Ramshorn Church to the Rottenrow, scarcely a single building is to be observed; the long line of George Street, with its numerous branches, had not, at the date referred to, more than the partial shadow of an existence.

The older parts of the city remain at the present day much as they were, and afford nothing worthy of particular remark. Turning our attention however, to the southward of the Gallowgate, it will be observed that much vacant space exists in that locality.—There the oldest portion of Charlotte Street meets the eye, wearing the appearance of a little cluster of isolated villas, reposing upon the verdant back-ground of the trees which skirted the Gallowgate Green. St. Andrew's Church stands alone, a church "in the fields"—that handsome square as yet unformed which was in after years to extend around it, and to maintain for so brief a season the fashionable character with which it was at first endowed. We have next the principal Green, with all its natural irregularities of surface, and possessed of scarcely one convenient means of approach—the Camlachie burn bounding it upon one side, the shambles upon another, and Dr. Cleland's improvements still slumbering in the lap of time. The little village of Gorbals may likewise be taken notice of, with its single street or two, and surrounding fields:—but it is unnecessary to dwell upon such details, when the map itself is before us—capable, we may say, of repeating its own sufficiently comprehensive tale, and of closing, with due effect, the present series of the VIEWS OF GLASGOW IN FORMER TIMES.

"THE MORNING WALK."

THE reader has here, upon what may be termed a supplemental sheet, the copy of an etching executed in 1793 by, it is said, a son of John Kay, the humorous designer of the "Edinburgh Portraits." The individuals represented were all well known in Glasgow half a century ago, and the scene of this matinly stroll may be laid at not many miles distance from the statue of King William. The likenesses are, we have been informed, exceedingly good; it will, however, be evident at a glance, that the spirit of caricature has been busily at work to magnify every peculiarity of personal appearance, and to travestie the *tout ensemble* of the promenaders.

To proceed from the left—the first is Mr. David Dale, a gentleman of a highly benevolent and energetic mind, to whose enterprise the manufactures of the West of Scotland are considerably indebted, and whose memory is still cherished among many of our citizens with the deepest respect. Mr. Dale was the first to introduce the art of cotton spinning into this part of the island, which he effected by the establishment in 1785 of the well-known mills in the vicinity of Lanark; and was for many years one of the magistrates of Glasgow. He died in 1806.

The second is Mr. John Wallace, a West India merchant of respectable standing and considerable wealth. The third is Mr. Robert Dreghorn, already referred to at page 57. With regard to the tall gentleman in the military dress, we are rather at fault, and have not been able to meet with any among the "seniors of the city" who could decide the question of his name and lineage. The fifth and last is Mr. Laurence, (or, as he was usually styled, Lowrie) Coulter, the son of that Provost Coulter who in the year 1736 laid the foundation stone of the present Town Hall. This individual enjoyed through life the fruits of his father's successful industry; he possessed an estate near Hamilton, at one time called "Whistleberry," afterwards "the Grove;" and was somewhat noted for considerable eccentricity of character.

Printed by William Rankin, 62 Argyll Street, Glasgow.

W.K.

THE MORNING WALK.

Glasgow, Published as the Act directs April 1793.

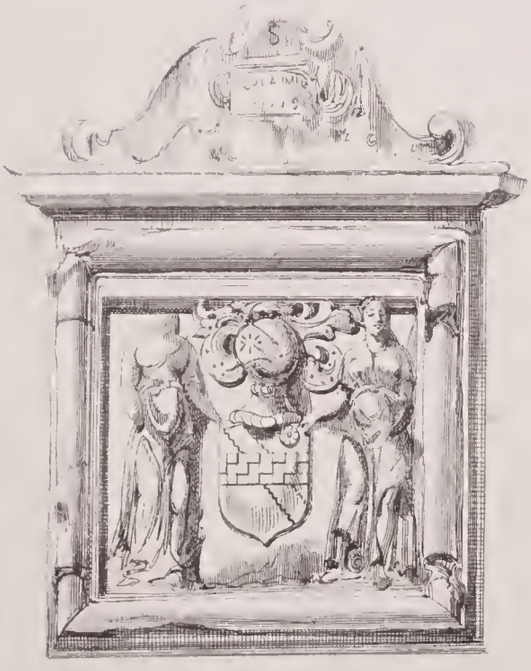
N°1.

FROM THE OLD MERCHANTS' HALL.

N°2

FROM OLD MERCHANTS' HALL.

N°3



FROM THE DUKE'S LODGINGS.

N°4

FROM THE BARONIAL HALL.

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